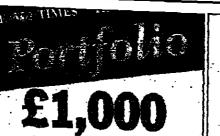


TIMES

No. 66,039

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997



SIMON **Curtains** for the

PAGE 22

ENO



was kinsey and the PAGE 20



GEORGE **SOROS**

How monetary union will destroy Europe

PAGE 22



Judge considering plea for release

Louise ruling to be given on Internet

LOUISE WOODWARD may learn today whether she is to escape the life sentence imposed on her for murdering the eight-month-old baby Matthew Eappen.
Judge Hiller B. Zobel, who

heard emergency motions calling for her release yesterday, said that he could publish his decision on the Internet today. He also gave a hint that the verdict could be reduced to one of assault and battery, which would mean that she could be freed from Framingham prison immediately.

If he does not give his ruling today. Woodward will have to wait at least until Monday to

The judge's statement came after a day of intense arguments by lawyers for both the defence and prosecution in the Cambridge, Massachusetts, court where the 19-year-old British au pair was convicted last Thursday night. Woodward was not in court, but he parents were in the public gallery, as was Matthew's

mother, Deborah Eappen. The defence argued that the murder conviction was unsustainable and asked the judge to quash it or order fresh trial. Failing that, Woodward's lawyers called for the verdict to be reduced to manslaughter admitting that excluding that possibility during the trial might have been a mistake. "I leave it to your conscience," the defence counsel Barry

Scheck told the judge. The prosecution countered that the second-degree murder conviction should stand and scoffed at suggestion that it be reduced to mansiaughter, say-

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LAW REPORT ...



Scheck: "I leave it to your conscience

ing: "The defence should not be permitted to sample the jury's verdict and then elect to move for a reduction to the very charged they opposed sending to the jury in in the

in calling for an acquittal or retrial, Mr Scheck concentrated on autopsy photographs that had been made available to the defence only after all experts from both sides had These photographs proved Mr Scheck contended, that the skull fracture suffered by Matthew was an old injury that could not have been inflicted on February 4, the day Woodward is said to have shaken or dropped the child. Mr Scheck said that the "belated disclosure of this exculpatory evidence led directly to injustice. There is no argument about the fact that the skull fracture is old.

He added that had the

But the prosecution lawyers Gerard Leone and Martha Coakley argued that the guilty verdict should not be With these photographs in hand there cannot be a guilty Communed on page 2, col 5

Nigella Lawson, page 21

defence had the photographs earlier, they could have been

used in the cross-examination

of Dr Gerald Feigin, a neurosurgeon at the Boston Chil-

dren's Hospital on whom the osecution relied to argue

that the skull fracture was fresh. "Not having these photographs, which showed that

healing and 'lipping' had be-gun, impaired our ability to

contradict Dr Feigin's histological arguments ... it is not a question of how skilfully we

played our cards, but whether

defence had access to "this overwhelmingly strong scientific evidence, it might not have called Woodward to give

Mr Scheck's Harvey Silver-

glate then argued that the

murder verdict should be re-

duced to manslaughter, even

though the defence still did not

accept that she was responsi-

Mr Silverglate said that

even if the jury rejected the

defence case that the injury

was old, we don't know

whether they convicted her for

doing something trivial that

was consistent with an acci-

dent". That would tend to

support the theory that the

jury would prefer a verdict of

involuntary manslaughter re-

sulting from reckless conduct.

which does not attract a life

e for Matthew's death

He also said that had the

or not we had a fair deck."

evidence:



Carolyn Parrington, who decided to waive her anonymity to encourage other women to report rapes, at home near Leicester yesterday

Rape victim wins record damages

A MOTHER of three has been awarded record damages of nearly £74,000 by a county court judge after she sued her former boss, whom she accused of raping her twice.

With costs, this will take the total bill for the company director she claimed attacked her to over £132,000. Carolyn Parrington agreed yesterday to waive her anonymity in The Times to encourage other women to report rapes after she left it too late to bring a

Judge Victor Hall found that Ms Parrington, 44, was indecently assaulted and raped twice by her boss, Alan Marriott, 43, while working as a laboratory technician for a Leicester textile company where he was production director. She said that the first

attack, in February 1992, took place in the firm's lavatories, while Mr Martiott's wife Lorraine, who worked as his secretary, was in a nearby room. The second rape, she alleged, took place in her son's bedroom nine months later when Mr Marriott called unexpectedly at her home.

She said she was so devastated and ashamed that she could not bring herself to go to the police, which meant that by the time she had summoned the courage to do so, vital scientific evidence was lost.

For a conviction, a case in the criminal courts must be proven beyond reasonable doubt, whereas in the civil courts a plaintiff can win on a lower degree of proof with "on the balance of probabilines".

After an eight-day hearing at Leicester County Court, the judge

awarded Ms Partington £73,776 damages on Monday in a ground-breaking judgment. Mr Marriott was also ordered to pay £13,500 to the DSS for benefits paid to Ms Parrington because she was unable to work as a result of her ordeal, as well as an estimated

included in the damages was £30,000 of aggravated damages after Mr Marriott told the court that Ms Parrington was promiscuous and had consented to sex. The judge described this as "culpable behaviour" which called for a large element of aggravated damages.

£45,000 in costs.

The previous highest award was £50,000 by the Appeal Court in November 1995 when Linda Griffiths sued her former boss, Arthur Williams, saying that he raped her while she was working for him as a

dishwasher at his hotel in Cornwall Ms Parrington, of Broughton Astley, Leicestershire, is donating a substantial part of her award to her local Rape Crisis Centre, She said: "I did not bring this case to get money for myself, but to punish him. He should be in prison, but, like many women. I was so traumatised by what he did to me that I

could not bring myself to tell anyone, let alone go to the police straight away. "I felt shame and guilt, so I just switched off and pretended that it had not happened. It has been a painful five years for me and I am still recovering with the help of counselling and with the support of my boyfriend."

Ms Parrington, who has a 23-year-old daughter and 19-year-old son from her marriage, and a three-year-old son with her current partner, suffers Continued on page 2, col 5

Prince heals Spencer rift with tribute to Diana's charity work

FROM ALAN HAMILTON IN CAPE TOWN

verdict."

FOR the first time since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the Prince of Wales last night paid public tribute to his former wife's charity work. Speaking at a formal dinner

in Cape Town hosted by President Mandela and with the late Princess's brother. Earl Spencer, among the guests, the Prince offered a gesture of reconciliation towards the Spencer family, helping to heal a rift opened by the Earl in his acerbic address at his sister's funeral. The Prince in the keynote

speech of his five-day official South African visit, told his audience in the presidential residence. The honds beween our peoples were demonstrated most clearly after the tragic and untimely death of Diana. I would like to take this opportunity to convey my sons' and my gratitude to all

those South Africans who took the time and trouble to express their condolences. Their messages have been greatly appreciated, and there have been very, very many of them."
He continued: "Over the last

few days I have been made very aware of the special importance to Africans of Diana's work to combat such things as Aids, poverty and the use of landmines. And her efforts. I know, in these areas have brought a real difference to the lives of very many people, on this continent and

Lord Spencer, along with all the other guests, gave the Prince a standing ovation at the end of his speech. Earlier, Lord Spencer said: "I have an understanding relationship with the Prince. My family is united in doing everything we can to help in the raising of William and Harry."

The Prince and Lord Spencer, who had not met since the day after the Princess's funeral, had a brief conversation after the banquet

At the start of the banquet, at which guests dined on medallions of ostrich with pumpkin fritters, Archbishop Desmond Tutu said in his grace: "We thank you for the life of our President. We thank you for the life of Mother Teresa. We thank you for the life of Princess Diana. And we thank you for the visit of the Prince of Wales."

The Prince's speech caused some confusion before its delivery. An advance text issued to reporters earlier in the day contained the tribute to the Princess, but in a second version distributed immediately before the banquet, most of the references had been removed. When the Prince spoke, he restored almost all of the original.

Last night, the Prince spoke of his immense pleasure at being in South Africa, and

What I have seen here of people working together with for a brighter future, despite all the many awesome chal-lenges which have to be faced, sends me away immensely heartened, and confident that South Africa is firmly on the

road to succes "But what has heartened me most, Mr President, has been listening to you during the course of the conversations I have been fortunate to have with you. If I may say so, you have a huge gift for storytelling in the great African tradition. But you also have a unique gift for the kind of forgiveness that transforms.

redeems and renews." At a banquet in Durban last night the Prince said that he had been given so many spears as gifts that he could start a Zulu war of his own.

Police seek Fiat, page 19

Royal Opera could face bankruptcy within week

By NICHOLAS WOOD

THE Royal Opera company could be forced to declare itself bankrupt within a week, Lord Chadlington, its chairman, told MPs yesterday. In a graphic warning of the

extent of the crisis at Covent Garden, Lord Chadlington disclosed that he was having daily talks with benefactors in an attempt to keep it affoat. He said that he had until November 12 to present a rescue package to the Arts Council. Covern Garden is losing £4.7 million a year and its difficulties have been in-

tensified by its closure pending a two-year redevelopment. Lord Chadlington's revelations came as Gerald Kaul-man, chairman of the Culture. Media and Sports select committee, suggested that the lifeblood of the country's premier opera house was "drib-

bling away all the time". Lord Chadlington told the



-If Chris Smith can get evervone in opera under one roof surely we can manage my parents for Christmas'

MPs: "We have looked at two or three options involving third parties, but to give details would be wrong, if we

cannot get funds into the

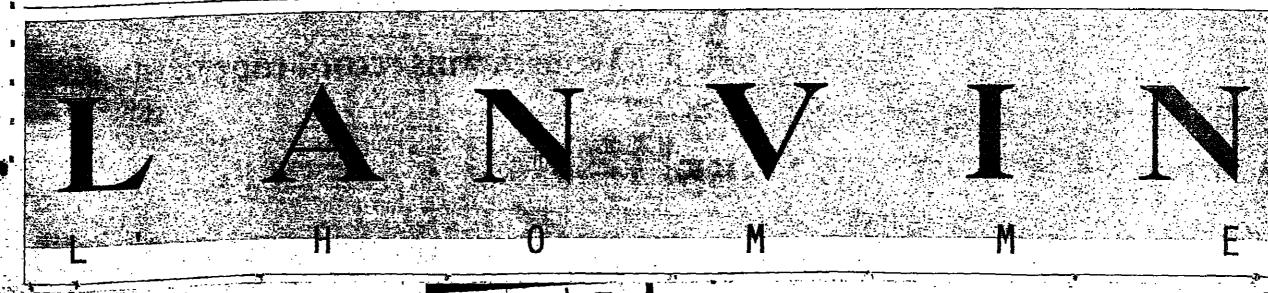
Royal Opera House in the very short term, the probability is the house will become Lord Chadlington, who has

been chairman a year, said that only after recent management changes had it been possible to get clear and accurate figures about the company. It had spent a year without a finance director.

Trying to get a grip on the figures had been like trying to catch a falling star. They changed every month in the

most alarming way He said that if the opera company continued its activities while insolvent its directors could be guilty of "wrongly trading". But it might be possible to stitch together a rescue plan. "It is going to be extremely difficult.

We have a small opportunity." Culture clash, page 5 Simon Jenkins, page 22 Pas de trois, page 39



Lit

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flec Cu

Fluoride in the water would put bite into toothless debate

ground on Monday, alighting at Westminster Station, your sketchwriter. spotted the Liberal Democrat 'a shy smile. MP for Carshalton & . Wallington, Tom Brake - the MP's mouth, which was "Must rush," he said. "I'm off open at the time. I judged this to tell a meeting about my

l expressed mild alarm. He explained. "My dentist has been overwhelmed by the metalwork in my mouth." I looked baffled. "It's a meeting of the British Fluoridation Society," he said.

harsh; but the incisors were ragged, the carrines grey and

the molars a terrible mess. How much of his dental history did Mr Brake plan to

offer the meeting? Before I could ask, he was gone. We recount the tale in no spirit of mockery. There are only limited areas on which

fluoridated when I was a boy.

I would not have these dread-

ful teeth." Mr Brake ventured

Taking a quick peck into

only the water had been an MP can speak with passion, sincerity, genuine interest and full possession of all the facts, and we should be rateful if they stick to these. If Brake confines himself in debate to the subject of his own teeth he will never be

contradicted. Nor is this intended as critical of Mr Brake. We who have sat through tedious hours in which MPs elevate their own chatter to the status of leading testimony in national debate are relieved that at least Tom Brake has a sense of humour about him-





self. But is it not a littlenoticed privilege of being an elected politician that you are paid to rehearse, amid all the gothic splendour of the Palace of Westminster, the sort of conversation others have while hanging out the washing, or on buses? Who else gets a salary, a chorus of hear-hear", a paragraph in

Hansard or a mention on

Yesterday in Parliament, for the anecdote quack-theorising and half-ignorant saloon-bar chat that characterise Commons discourse? Only newspaper columnists are luckier.

My secretary, Mrs Wright has a friend with a troubled dental history. "Wendy could write a book about her teeth," Mrs Wright once confided. publish? Yet if we elected-Wendy to Parliament the story of her teeth could fill volumes of Hansard.

With Tom and Wendy in mind I looked in on MPs vesterday to hear Richard Spring (C, Suffolk W) intro-duce a Bill with no hope of making it into law: the Prohibition of Bull Bars Bill.

Mr Spring was already in mid-flow. "... so I got out of my Volvo Estate to examine the damage. I was horrified The MP was telling one of those interminable motorMPs nodded interestedly. . The chassis was buckled. The car was a write-off. Now, if a buil-bar can do that

to a Volvo Estate, imagine the

damage it could do ... Richard Spring's purpose was noble intended to save lives. He is one of a brave and determined hand of backbenchers from all parties who are campaigning for the prohibition of "bull-bars".

Doubtless these accessories can be lethal. But now the European Commission knowabout the state of Mr Spring's

After Spring had finished, Tory Education Spokesman Stephen Dorrell opened a debate on Government proposals for student finance.

He spoke well but it was his audience which interested me. A great man, often too busy to attend such occasions, slipped in. Soon listening intently was Kenneth Clarke, the former Chargellor and the founder member of the new Eurofriendy "Conservative Main-

It is not yet known whether Mr Dorrell is a sympathiser.

Labour and Lib Dems try to reverse Eurosceptic tide

Brown attacks bogus patriotism of the Right, reports Philip Webster

SUMMIT HITS NEW HEIGHTS

open spaces have been them what we could do."

counter Eurosceptic sentiment in Britain was launched by the Government and the Liberal Democrats last night, as Gordon Brown attacked the "bogus" patriotism of the Right.

Tony Blair, senior ministers and Liberal Democrat leaders took the first steps towards to what may eventually become a cross-party coalition for a "yes" campaign in a single currency referendum after the

At only the second meeting of the Labour-Liberal Cabinet committee on the constitution, the party leaders agreed that the British presidency of the European Union, starting in January, should aim to build a "national consensus" that Britain gained from Europe and Europe benefited from

The Chancellor fired an opening shot by rejecting Europeanism was pro-British, as he delivered some of his most enthusiastic remarks yet about the prospects of Britain eventually being part of eco-

nomic and monetary union. He declared, in the annual Spectator lecture, that a pro-European consensus on the single currency was already being built, and added that Britain had always thrived when it was outward-looking and internationalist rather

than isolationist. His lecture came hours after the Cabinet committee meeting attended by Mr Blair, Paddy Ashdown, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio, and leading Liberal Democrats was dominated by a debate about the need for Britain to take a more

Mr Blair's spokesman said after the meeting that both sides had agreed that they had a shared interest in "making Britain less Eurosceptic" and that a successful British presidency would help towards that goal by showing the British people the benefits of Britain being a strong and leading

player in Europe. The campaign would try to show that Euroscepticism was not the way to advance the

CANARY WHARF tower

in London's Docklands is

to host this week's Anglo-

French summit as part of

Tony Blair's drive to up-date Britain's image (Polly

The Prime Minister will

meet his French counter-

part, Lionel Jospin, and

President Chirac in sur-

roundings which are a

world away from previous

summit venues such as

Chequers and Downing

Street. Discussions will be

held on two floors of the

above the Thames. Big

Newton writes).

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national interest, officials said. Persuading the public of the potential benefits of a single currency went hand in hand with engendering a more posi-

tive approach.
"Paddy Ashdown is a significant figure. If you have got people like him and his colleagues, and Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine arguing a case, then people will respond to that, providing the argument is right."

A Liberal Democrat source added: "We agreed that one of our aims would be to start to build a national consensus, a grand coalition, behind the view that Britain benefits from Europe, and Europe benefits from British membership.

rooms and furnished by

British designers commis-

sioned by the Government.

A Foreign Office spokes-man said that careful

thought had gone into the

setting. "The theme that we

have been developing is the

tions working together

into the millennium. The

choice of venue is designed

A government insider said: "The French have got

their Défense [the business

thought we would show

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to reflect this."

Mr Brown confirmed his reputation as one of Labour's foremost pro-Europeans by arguing there would be nothing unpatriotic about going into a successful single curren-cy. In a largely philosophical speech about "Britishness", Mr Brown said the British way was not to retreat into insularity and defensive isolationism but to be outwardlooking and adaptable.

"Our history shows not just that we have always been a European power but that Britain has been European for good pragmatic reasons. So we should dismiss the notion that our history suggests being British is synonymous with being anti-European."

The Chancellor accused a Conservative Party which normally took a pragmatic view of British national interest of putting national economic interests second to ideology.

"Previous Conservative Governments have sensibly supported the pooling of sovereignty not just in Nato but in the single market, where it is in the British interest to do so." For years the Right had claimed it was the only patriotic party, and scorned patriotic people on the Left as being anti-British. This bogus dividing line had been swept aside. The old caricature — patriotic right versus disloyal left - is exposed as hollow, a card that can never be played again.

George Soros, page 22

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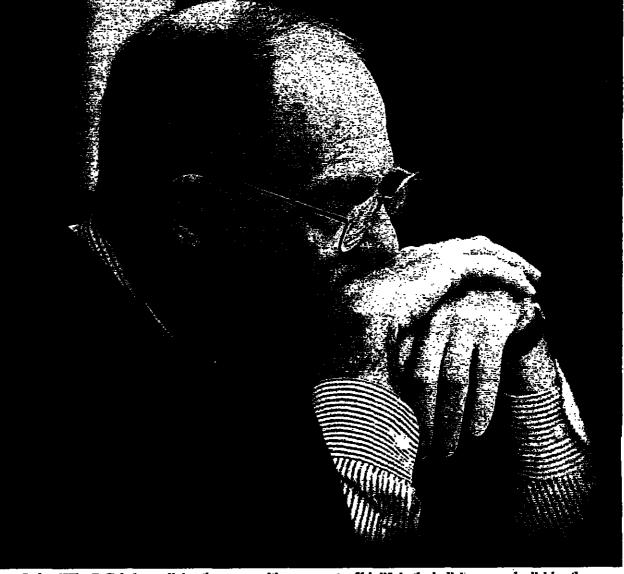
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Judge Hiller B. Zobel, now living the most exciting moments of his life in the judiciary — and relishing them

Old lion who is enjoying his chance to lap up the cream

From Tunku Varadarajan in cambridge, massachusetts AS PROTESTERS chant ceaselessly for Louise Woodward outside his concrete courthouse in Cambridge, as television stations debate the minutiae of the case, and as callers from all over the world jam the telephone lines to his chambers, Judge Hiller B. Zobel has been basking in the

It is fair to say that Judge Zobel, 64, is now living the most exciting moments of his life. Not often does a greyhaired provincial figure attract the world's gaze. Immodest to an almost endearing extent, Judge Zobei is, in the words of a prosecutor here. "just lapping it up like a cat does cream".

His friends say that he

element. That's a good thing, because we wouldn't want a spacious home in a Boston suburb. Inside, in his booklined library, rich in volumes nervous judge, or a tetchy judge, or a shrinking violet.

on American history, he will have focused hard on the fate of Woodward. According to court officials, he also had a sack-load of post driven to his home, all letters of support for Woodward. There's a likeliattention like an old lion in hood that he read a fair few," an official said.

Although he did not receive the motion from the defence. and the counter-motion from the prosecution, until Monday afternoon, the arguments made by both sides were sufficiently obvious for him to have been working on a decision by as early as last Saturday. A prosecutor who has worked with him for years said: "There is no ques-tion that old Hiller is in his

attention and lost his focus. Widely regarded as one of the most erudite judges in Massachusetts, Judge Zobel, a former Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, read law at Harvard Law School, from where he graduated with distinction in 1959.

who buckled under all the

Born in New York, to a German Jewish family, Judge Zobel was appointed to the state bench in 1979 by Governor Edward King. He arouses strong passions that are as often negative as they are in his favour. Many local lawyers regard him as a cantankerous maverick, who

everyone else. Others see these traits in a positive light, describing him as fiercely independent, "unafraid of the local political establishment". and "faithful to his principles alone, not those of other, lesser people".
Judge Zobel also has a well-

documented dislike for juries, as can be seen from an article he wrote in American Heritage magazine in 1995, in which he said that the judicial system expects, "average untrained people to absorb evidence for days and weeks on subjects entirely foreign to them without explanation". The article ended: "Perhaps the jury, to paraphrase what Churchill once said of democfor trying cases except for any

NOTE III.

and balling and

par cabco.

Judge to give Internet ruling

Continued from page 1 overturned, nor should a retrial be ordered simply because the judge thought the jury had "got it wrong". Ms Coakley also rejected the defence claims that its late access to the autopsy pictures had changed the course of the trial X-rays studied during the trial were a much better guide to the injuries than any photograph. Finally,Mr Leone argued

against reducing the charge to manslaughter, saying: "If the jurors accepted Louise Woodward's story of what happened on February 4, they would have acquitted." For the verdict to be overturned, Woodward would have to produce a new version of

Towards the end of Mr Leone's argument, the judge asked him whether he considered Woodward's behaviour to fit the criteria for "assault and battery". Mr Leone said that it did.

Under Massachusetts law. the judge can reduce the charge against Woodwardto any lesser offence he thinks fit. If he were to reduce it to assault and battery, Woodward would face a maximum sentence of 24 years in a "house of correction" — not a

At the end of the hearing, Judge Zobel said that when he published his ruling, it would be broadcast on the Internet: www.lawyersweekly.com/ matreass.htm#latest

Dismay in Elton at news of delay

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

GROANS of disappointment from supporters gathered in the pub in Louise Woodward's home village greeted the news that the Boston judge would not give an immediate decision on her fate.

Villagers packed into the bar of The Rigger pub in the village of Elton, in Cheshire closely followed the complicated legal manocurrings in the Boston courtroom via satellite television in the public bar. Although campaigners were less optimistic than they were before the verdict last week, many hoped for an indication from the bench that the teenager will soon be home. Eight domestic and Ameri-

can television crews caught the mood in the cramped bar swinging under the hot lights from expectancy, to disappointment and then a grim resolve for a much lengthier campaign to free Woodward. For some, like her close friend Kate Hagan, 19, there were

tears again. Miss Hagan, wearing a yellow "Free Louise" T-shirt; said: "It is like they are playing a time game with Louise. You can only take so much. We will have to wait for the next thing to happen. It is very distressing for us all. We are going to fight even harder now for Louise's release. It is a case of fighting.

fighting, fighting until we bring her home."

Woman wins record rape damages

Continued from page 1 flashbacks, nightmares, suicidal

thoughts, sleeplessness and weight loss which has been diagnosed as posttraumatic stress disorder.

Her solicitor, Chris Greenwell of Tollers, Leicester, said: "This is a record amount of damages for a case of this kind. We were delighted that the judge was prepared to give a higher award than the Court of Appeal, which gave the previous

record-breaking damages, Ms Parrington, who married at the age out followed Ms Parrington into a lavatory of 18, says she was naive and vulnerable adjoining her laboratory, used only by

when Mr Marriott began sexually harassing her in 1991. She said: "I was already in an extremely fragile emotional state because I had just split up from my husband. Alan knew this and started sexually harassing me when we were alone together in the lab.

"He would ask quite disgusting questions. He also grabbed my breasts and bottom. When I objected, he laughed. He thought it was all a game."

One day, in February 1992, Mr Marri-ott followed Ms Parrington into a lavatory

her and her colleague. It was there that he raped her, she says.

it was only when she met her current partner in 1993 that she was able to begin to talk about what had happened. She left the company in December 1993 and a doctor referred her to a Rape Crisis Centre. She underwent counselling before making a statement to the police in 1994. but decided against pursuing a criminal case due to lack of forensic evidence She now works as a waitress. She said: "Men in suits in positions of authority still

frighten me so I cannot work in an office."

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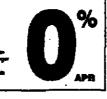
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declaring himself for the South

NELSON would have had to step off his column and amble down the Mall before Geofthe Main before Gen-frey Boycott left Yorkshire. The impossible, however, now looks inevitable. England and Yorkshire's doughtiest open-ing bat is set to sell up and move South. Not just down to Sheffield. He is going all the way down to Bournemouth in Dorset — in cricketing terms,

a minor county.

Mr Boycott, who has parlayed the bloody-mindedness he showed in front of the stumps into a successful career as a cricket commentator, has put Pear Tree Farm, in the village of Woolley, near Wakefield, on the market for a reported £600,000 through Hodson's estate agents in

Even in a county renowned for the forthrightness of its residents. Mr Boycott's reluctance to keep his own council has made him as many enemies as friends. Nonetheless. he remains as potent a symbol

of Yorkshire as the epony-mous batter pudding.

Speaking on the television company TWI, for which he is commentating in Pakistan at the moment, Mr Boycott said: This rumour about me leaving Yorkshire has been going got nothing to do with me." Mark Adams, of Hodson's, however, confirmed that Mr Boycott had asked to sell his

house by private treaty. He has bought a £400,000 property in Bournemouth to share with his partner, Anne Wyatt. The cricket umpire Dickie Bird, a fellow Yorkshireman, said: "He is moving and going down to

Philip Delves Broughton on

the surprise as Yorkshire

hero ups stumps

for Bournemouth

is a Yorkshireman through and through, which is why I am very surprised he is going. "I would think he could move anytime now because they have already got a house in Bournemouth where they are ready to move in," he added yesterday.

The vicar of St Peter's church in Woolley, the Rev Catherine Ogle, said: "It's lovely to have a celebrity in the village but sadly he never came to church. We will be sorry to see him go though." Others in the village were not so sorry. David Row-

botham, owner of the local golf club, said: "He never partook in village activities, But that's his choice Mr Boycott was born in the: west Yorkshire pit village of Headingley in Leeds that he celebrated his greatest tri-

umph, his 100th first class

century, against the Austra-Bernard Poulter, landlord of the Sir Geoffrey Boycott pub in Dewsbury, where they believe Mr Boycott is overdue a knighthood, said: "Though it is sad he is leaving us. I assume he will maintain the



Boycott will share the £400,000 house in Bournemouth with Anne Wyatt

resting his hat elsewhere." Mr Poulter's assumption is

safe. Only three things are said to make the stony-hearted Boycott go weak: his mother, his bat and his county. Last July, when testifying in the libel suit brought by the

Alan Lamb against Imran Khan, Mr Boycott, having given his Yorkshire address

said: "That's in England." George Carman, QC, one of the barristers in the case, asked him: "It hasn't declared independece yet?" Mr Boycott replied: "We like to think we're

Bishop backs homosexual sex for over-16s

Harries's announcement plunges Church into crisis

that will rival women priests, reports Ruth Gledhill

THE Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, plunged the Church of Engand into a new crisis over homosexuality last night when he called for the age of homosexual consent to be lowered from 18 to 16.

Bishop Harries, chairman of the Church of England bishops' group on homosex-uality, is backing proposals to lower the age of homosexual consent from 18 to 16. Bishop Harries, a leading adviser to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, admitted last night that he had changed his mind on the issue and is now publicly advocating an equalising of the age of

Consent.

While other bishops back him privately, Bishop Harries is the first of the current diocesan bishops in the Church of England to speak out publicly in support of lowering the age of consent. His intervention comes as Parliament prepares to debate the issue next spring. A free vote will be allowed. Although the amendment is

expected to be passed by the Commons, in the House of Lords, a more conservative body, support from the bench of bishops will be critical. On the last occasion the issue came up in Parliament, in 1994, most bishops voted for an age of homosexual consent of 21 or 18.

Three bishops voted that it should be lowered to 16 but only one of these, Dr David Jenkins of Durham, who is now retired, was from the Church of England. The other two were the Right Rev Richard Holloway, of the Scottish episcopal church, and the Right Rev Rowan Williams, bishop of Monmouth in the

Significantly, Bishop Williams is emerging as a favour-Roy Williamson in Southwark, an appointment which

would give added impetus to the church's pro-gay liberal wing if it goes through.

A spokesman for Bishop Harries said that out of the current house of bishops, Bishop Harries was the first bishop to take this line publicly. The fact that he is in charge of the bishops' group on homosexuality makes in highly significant," he said. Bishop Harries made his

comments on Monday night Berskhire clergy from his diocese at St George's House, Windsor, a residential study centre at Windsor Castle



Bishop Harries said he had changed his mind

which has the Duke of Edinburgh as its vice-chairman. In an interview with The Times yesterday, Bishop Harries enlarged on his views. He said: "I do support the lowering of the age of consent for homosexuals to 16. The last time it came before Parliament, I supported an age of consent of 18. I have changed my mind.

Before, I took the view that between the ages of 16 and 18 a person's sexuality was still fluid and unformed, and that given the chance to develop heterosexual relationships if that is what they were capable

But recent evidence from the European Court, the British Medical Association and elsewhere suggestes speople's sexuality is well formed by the age of 16. And even if there is still a doubt about it, the idea of prosecuting people of 17 for having sex really is very

nproductive." Bishop Harries said he did not support homosexual marriages or blessings. But he also considered the controversial Clause 28, which prohibits local authorities from promoting homosexuality, to be "disastrous" and wants to see it abolished.

The bishops are expected to debate the issue at their next meeting in January. This will be shortly before the issue comes before Parliament. It is expected to come up as an amendment to the Crime and Disorder Bill, expected to be introduced by Jack Straw in the next few weeks. An amend-ment is likely to be tabled during the report stage of the Bill in the spring for the age of homosexual consent to be lowered to 16. The Government has announced it will allow a free vote.

Supporters are thought to include William Hague, who voted in favour of lowering the age of consent to 16 in 1994. Bishop Harries was con-

demned by evangelicals within the established church, which is facing a split over the issue more serious than that threatened by women priests. Already, one parish, Jesmond in Newcastle, has declared itself out of communion with its new diocesan bishop, the Right Rev Martin Wharton, because of his statement that homosexuality within a loving, permanent relationship

As the church leadership liberal line, other parishes are expected to follow suit.

French cricket for Benaud

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

much-parodied cricket commentator and former Australian captain, has accepted an invitation to become the honorary patron of France Cricket, the new governing body of the sport across the Channel.

Benaud, 67, who has French ancestry and lives on the Riviera for six months of the year, said he was delighted to accept the post as titular benefactor of an organisation of 38 clubs and 800 players. "I am looking forward to be able to attend some events next summer, and fit in with whatever the national committee thinks best for cricket in France."

The offer was made by Simon Hewitt, the captain of the French national team, which has won the European Federation Championship for the last two years, playing against all the continental countries - except for Eng-

RICHIE BENAUD, the land, Scotland, Ireland, Denmark and Holland.

Hewitt said that he had heard from Ian Chappell, the former Australian captain, at the International Cricket Conference meeting in Malaysia earlier this year that Benaud, who won 63 caps for Australia, had French ancestors. "When I went to the

NatWest final at Lord's in September, I asked to meet Richie, and he provisionally accepted the offer," he said. On October 18, the French cricketers voted to secede from the French Baseball Federation and set up their own organisation, France Cricket, and Benaud's post as patron was approved by acclamation at that meeting.

Yesterday Benaud was on his way from Sydney to Brisbane to commentate on the Test match between Australia and New Zealand. He said that he would be happy to



with his new role

offer advice on coaching and development, particularly to some of the 200 Frenchmen now playing the game. Hewitt "We had to give him details of the current structure here before he

agreed to our offer." There is a national club

team has to include at least seven people who hold French passports and three of them must have been born in the country. But Hewitt said: "We currently have at least five or six players who were born in this country representing the national team.

There is a great deal of curiosity about cricket here and quite a lot of coverage in newspapers and television, although we have to explain what it's about. We even have cricket on the curriculum of a school in Picardy. There are four or five French bowlers who are really good, and the French take naturally to fielding. Batting is not so casy."

France, who won a silver medal in cricket at the 1900 Olympics, will be taking part in the European championship in the Hague next year, when all the continental countries will be participating. England will send an amateur

EN FRAGRANCE FOR MEN-

· Formula One tobacco ban stalls

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government has reluctantly decided to abandon its plan to ban tobocco sponsorship of Formula One motor racing. Instead it will press the sport's governing body to introduce a voluntary code to reduce the level of advertising at racetracks worldwide.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, announced in June that the Government would ban all sports sponsorship by tobacco companies without exception as part of the drive to reduce smoking. However, after long negotiations with the Fédération International d'Automobile, Tessa Jowell, the Public Health Minister, has concluded that it would be counterproductive to bring in the ban for Formula One, which derives about £100 million a year from the tobacco

A ban has been included in the draft for the European Directive on controlling tobacco sponsorship, but yesterday Ms lowell sent a letter to her opposite

would be best to exclude Formula One. British representatives at a meeting of member state officials explained that there was a danger that a ban would almost certainly result in the FIA moving all its races out of the EU to Eastern Europe and Asia, where tobacco advertising controls are much weaker.

The directive is due to be discussed by Ministers at a Council meeting in Brussels on December 4, but passing it could be a priority for the British presidency of the EU during the first six months of next year.

"We think tobacco sponsorship can be phased out in other sports over a period, but it just won't work with Formula One," the Health Department said last night. The sport is worldwide and can move anywhere. With a ban we run the risk of driving Formula One to places where there is less of a tobacco-control regime. We can't stop television pictures coming

numbers in the EU advising them that it back from the Grand Prix and there is a very real risk of there being more tobacco exposure in the pictures. We are therefore seeking a total exemption for Formula One from the directive.

"We have been in close and urgent talks with the FIA and are looking for a tough voluntary code on a global scale, which will reduce advertising worldwide not just in Europe. This might include agreements on smaller logos or even doing away with some logos completely. We want to reduce the amount of tobacco visibility in the sport. The FIA is keen to co-operate and this therefore seems the best way of going about it.

"Ideally, we would like to ban sponsorship, but we are living in the real world and we are trying to find a solution to a unique problem in a unique sport."

The department said it had looked at technology that would make it possible to blot logos off television pictures, but had decided this would not work either.

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Cult

Republican terrorist group may be planning new attack

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3 L E.

By MARTIN FLETCHER CHIEF IRELAND

THE republican terrorist group responsible for Friday's failed bombing in Londonder-ry has gained access to Semtex and is expected to launch another attack before the weekend, senior security sources said last night.

The Continuity IRA, once dismissed as little more than a joke, appeared to be receiving assistance from a few rebel-lious IRA hardliners and now posed the single deadliest threat to the peace process, the sources said. "They are reckoned to be a real threat and the security forces are acting ac-cordingly," one official said. "The Provisional IRA is

worried about them and we are worried about them more and more worried about them," another said. With Republican Sinn Fein, widely regarded as Continuity IRA's political wing, holding its annual conference in Dublin this weekend, a further moraleboosting attack was "extremely likely if they can get it together", the second official added.

The sources said the Londonderry bomb, left in a government office building on the eve of Hillary Clinton's visit to Northern Ireland, consisted of 1.5lb of Semtex and two gallons of petrol and would have caused a massive explosion had the detonator not failed to ignite it. Merely arrying such a device through crowded streets was 'criminal in the extreme", an

official said. But equally alarming was the fact that Continuity IRA had, for the first time, used Serntex, previously possessed only by the IRA. Security sources agreed this probably came from an IRA stockpile and blamed hardliners opposed to the ceasefire.

They are confident that the IRA leadership did not approve the transfer. IRA leaders viewed the development "with alarm" because it en-

dangered the peace process. Continuity IKA dates from a Sinn Fein split in 1986, but became militarily active only after the IRA's 1995 ceasefire. bombed the Killyhevlin hotel in Fermanagh last year, and Markethill, Co Armagh, in September, and has mounted several unsuccessful attacks.

These have raised its profile at a time when there is significant opposition to the ceasefire among grassroots members of the IRA. As yet, security officials see no evidence of large-scale defections, but say there are worrying signs of a "fraying at the edges" in areas such as South Armagh and Londonderry.

Culture clash over opera tours

Critics say the Smith plan would be bad for London

and would cost more money, reports Dalya Alberge

ONE of the Royal Opera House's most powerful benefactors expressed grave concern yesterday about the future of opera and ballet in London, after news that the English National Opera may have to share the Covent Garden home of the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet.

Lord Sainsbury, president of the Royal Opera House's appeal and chairman of the Royal Ballet governors, said: "It's a sad day that we have to go back to one opera house in London." The ROH's former head. Sir Jeremy Isaacs, and the financial controller of Opera North also criticised the proposals by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary.

Lord Sainsbury was particularly anxious that ballet could be overshadowed by two opera companies, and that there could be a reduction in the number of dance performances. The idea of sending companies out on tour for two thirds of the year was "pie in the sky", he said. "To say we'll get the companies touring is the most expensive thing you

London would be "the poor-er for it", he said. "It means lewer performances of the lyric arts. It puts London's

comparison with other main cities in a poor light. Paris has five theatres and Berlin has

"I'm very anxious that the sharing of performances means that, whilst there is no more opera than now, there is no less baller than now. The Royal Ballet should continue its share of half the evenings. If there's any diminishing in the opportunities for them to perform at the ROH, the governors will have to consider their position. It would affect support for the ballet if there's less ballet, whether from me or anyone else."

Lord Sainsbury blamed the ROH's problems on inadequate funding by the last Government, but acknowl-edged that the situation could not continue in its presen

Sir Jeremy described the plans as "tragic and catastrop-hic" and said that taking the companies on tour would dramatically increase spend-A week's tour to Manchester some years ago had cost the Royal Opera £300,000.

These proposals are pa-iently and self-evidently far more expensive than the present state of affairs," he



Hogan, left, and Isaacs, who objects to spending

on the present level of funding - only if the funds were taken to a greatly enhanced level. Money should be applied to underpinning the viability of two exceptional companies instead of on rail fares, hotels, subsistence and landladies up

and down the country." Opera North's financial controller, David Hogan, said that its tours, with 130 people in three productions to five towns last spring, cost 1469,000. The box-office income was £265,000: "The greatest cost is the principal artists, closely followed by subsistence. With a bigger commany their subsistence is company, their subsistence is going to be huge. The problem is that when you tour, you tour to small theatres.

"ENO and the RO's choruses are too large and they would never fit on the stages. They are used to larger stages. If they're only at Covent Garden for one-third of the year, they will need large choruses and orchestras in the home base but they wouldn't all be able to tour."

The prospect of two opera companies encroaching on their terrority is unnerving for the regional companies. Opera North covers the whole of the North of England. "Any eating into the area would be distructive for us," said Mr Hogan. Warren Smith, general

manager of the Grand Thearre in Leeds, saw the proposals as a "rethink" and said: The proof of the pudding is in the eating. When Opera North was established 18 years ago, people were very dubious. The fact was, it proved there is an audience. The question now is, how big can that audience get?"



Concern over funding for hi-tech redesign

Opera House's redevelopment insisted yesterday that the £214 million scheme was running on time and within budget, and that it would be able to accommodate another company with ease. Insiders, however, expressed doubts because tens of millions of pounds had still to be raised. Although Jeremy Dixon.

the architect, said that everything was running to plan, observer said that "fundraising has hit the buffers". The ROH has found itself trying to raise cash from the same potential donors as

the Bankside Tate Gallery, day for seven days a week, Sadler's Wells and others.

that the ROH would boast the most sophisticated technology of any British theatre, said John Seekings, development director. "We've had a Victorian opera house with Dickensifacilities. We've gone straight from 19th-century operations to 21st-century operations. We think it will make others in Europe green with

Working practices were also antiquated, although many have been negotiated. In the old house, said Mr Seekings, staff on shifts were required to work 24 hours a

in time for the next performance or rehearsal. Because everything was handled manually, loaded on and off lorries and from storerooms, there was the risk of damage. In the new house, a night crew will

The mechanisation, including motorised hoists, wheeled platforms and carousels, has reduced the "turnaround time" from six hours to twoand-a-half hours. The main carousel, for example, will mean that for up to five productions can be stored above the stage.

not be needed.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP faces insurance and MoT charges

Ann Clwyd, the Labour MP for Cynon Valley, has been charged with driving without insurance after being stopped for allegedly driving through a red traffic light. The former member of the Shadow Cabinet is also charged with driving without a valid MoT certificate and three other

motoring offences.

Mrs Clwyd, 60, was stopped in Cardiff in February. She did not appear before city magistrates. The case was adjourned until next month because of her working commitments".

Porter case ends

The appeal by Dame Shirley Porter and others against a £31 million surcharge imposed for their role in the Westminster council "homes for votes" affair was unfair and procedurally flawed, her lawyers said at the end of a 23day hearing. The three High Court judges may delay their decision until after Christmas.

Fayed deal

A caretaker and assistant stalker on Mohamed Al Fayed's Balnagown Castle es-tate in the Highlands, who claims he was dismissed after taking his first day off work for two years, dropped his case for unfair dismissal. Man Elliot, 56, reached a settlement believed to be for £4,500 the day before a tribunal hearing. £155,000 for RSI

A former bank clerk who will never work again because of repetitive strain injury (RSI) has been awarded £155,000 in compensation by a London county court. Michelle Mulligan, 43, started suffering from the upper-limb disorder after her workload quadrupled at the Midland Bank in Gillingham, Kent, five years ago.

Birth award lost

A woman who suffered serious health problems after the forceps delivery of her first child, weighing 11lb 20z, lost her £64,000 damages award. The Court of Appeal ruled that a consultant at Maidstone hospital had not been negligent in his treatment of Samantha Knight, 34, of Appledore, Kent.

Call me Kennedy

The violinist Nigel Kennedy is to drop the name "Nigel" for all future concerts, recordings and public appearances and wants to be known simply as Kennedy. The intention is to make people take him more seriously. His record com-pany, EMI Classics, said: "He wants to be positioned as a first-class violinist again."

ENO fears a drastic cut in performances sphere had been "remarkably chorus. "In this house they

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

National Opera may have to move into Covent Garden with the Royal Opera was greeted with dismay at the Coliseum, the company's cur-rent home. The greatest fear was that the number of performances would be drasti-

Staff, who learnt of Chris Smith's proposal in the press yesterday morning, were called to an emergency meeting at lunchtime, where they were briefed by Paul Daniel, the ENO's music director.

Members of the company said afterwards that the atmo-

They said that they would cooperate with the review but warned that a move could destroy the unique "family of the company and its audience. At present the ENO stages at least 190 perfor mances a year, which would almost certainly have to be substantially reduced if the

company had to share. The ENO has always been a strong family company. The audience are extremely loyal and we do more performances than any other company in Britain," said David Dyer, a member of the

some places in the West End." Mr Dyer was sceptical about the suggestion that the ENO would give more performances outside the capital if it had to share a home. "We would love to tour more, but it's very expensive." He pointed out that excellent regional opera companies already

Helen Robertson-Barker, of the music staff, said job cuts were not mentioned at the meeting. "Nobody said a word about jobs. Everybody just wants the identity of the company to be preserved."

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Mob wanted to kill me, says crying WPC

By ADAM FRESCO

A WPC broke down in tears in court yesterday as she escribed how she found herself alone among a crowd of youngsters who attacked her screaming: "kill her, kill her." Alison Mullins, who has been with the Metropolitan Police for almost 12 years, described how she was repeatedly punched and had her hair pulled by the group.

As tears streamed down the

As tears streamed down the her officer's face, Judge George Bathurst Norman allowed her a few minutes to compose herself. She had to be given a glass of water and a seat by the court usher, but refused an offer from the judge for a short break to tecover.

The officer told Southwark Crown Court that she was alone in a police van driving through Frith Street, Soho, central London, in the early hours of March 11 this year when she was confronted with a crowd standing in the middle of the road.

She said: "I tooted my horn to get them to move out of the way and they all started shouting abuse at me. There



Accused: Paul Cooperand Deborah Gross were abusive and violent, court was told

"I arrested him for being drunk and disorderly. I took

hold of his arm and as I did so

a female with him started pulling at Mr Cooper and shouting abuse at me. She was

trying to pull him away. I was

on my own and asked for

some assistance via the radio."

During the attack Jack Gordon, a university student, tried

to grab her baton, she said.

He started pulling at my

elbow and arm, shouting 'Get

the stick! Kill Her, Kill Her! "

she said. "All the others

started shouting this and other abuse." She said that despite

were approximately 20 in the group. I began to move through them and as I did I noticed a white male I now know to be Paul Cooper with a white female.

"As I passed them I checked my rear wing mirror and saw Mr Cooper kick the bumper of the van. " She got out of the van to question him and he became abusive, shouting and swearing at her.

Smelling alcohol on his breath she arrested him but as she did so others in the group tried to pull him away from her, a jury heard. She added:

go of Mr Cooper.
WPC Mullins added "The female was constantly grabbing at my hair and pulling and strenging abuse at the life."

ternale was constantly grabbing at my hair and pulling and screaming abuse at me. It was all swearing, just a barrage. I was then bundled across the road and slammed into a window."

The officer said she was held in a bear hug and repeatedly punched in the chest despite her ordering the revellers to "get off me."

She was finally rescued by

fellow officers. She added:
"Afterwards I went and sat at
the back of a police van. I felt
sick and very shocked." The
court heard she suffered a
number of injuries and had to
take time off from work.

Deborah Gross, 18, unemployed, of Guildford, Surrey;

Nigel Soole, 24, a cellar super-

visor, of Balham, south west London: Stephen Yarmun, 24, an order processor, of Ashiord, Middlesex; Pani Cooper, 24, a software production assistant, of Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey, and Jack Gordon, 18, a student, of Ashtead, Surrey, all deny violent disorder and affray.



Alison Mullins: told court that she was attacked by screaming crowd

Multiple births rising with test-tube successes

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE number of test-tube bates is rising rapidly, with increasing risks of multiple births, official figures showed

There have been more than 21,000 live births in Britain using the methods pioneered in Cambridge in 1978. A quarter of the total have been born in the past two years, and more than 13 woman a day are now giving birth after fertility treatment, as an increasing number of couples take advantage of improved techniques.

The multiple birth rate from test-tube pregnancies is higher than ever, according to figures published in the annual report of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority. In the past 15 months there were \$120 test-tube births, of which

1,774 were twins, triplets or quads. The stillbirth and neonatal

The stillbirth and neonatal death rate for a triplet pregnancy, with one or more babies dying, is 82,6 per 1,000 births, compared to just eight per 1,000 for single pregnancies.

Ruth Deech, the authority chairman, said: "Multiple births can be the source of much stress and amiety for parents. There is a greater risk of complications or even miscarriage, as well as long-term disability, and these can cause considerable emotional and financial pressure.

"People undergoing IVF treatment should be aware that as the technique becomes more successful, so the risk of multiple birth increases." A mothers. Patient ics and other inter are being consult the most appropriate of repaying costs.

lets or woman has a better chance of becoming pregnant if conatal more than one embryo is t preg-

With one embryo, the pregancy rate is 8.4 per cent and the live birth rate 6.8 per cent. With three embryos, the pregnancy rate rises to 26 per cent with 21.4 per cent live births. Overall, 18.5 per cent of IVF patients become pregnant, and 15 per cent have live

The authority is still making up its mind about the question of expenses for egg and sperm donors, after controversy about payments for surrogate mothers. Patient groups, clinics and other interested parties are being consulted to decide the most appropriate method of repaying costs.

University hit by meningitis considers inoculation for all

By Peter Foster

SOUTHAMPTON University may introduce routine meningitis vaccinations for all first-year students, after two outbreaks of the disease on British campuses in the past year, it emerged yesterday.

Three Southampton students have died in the past month. Howard Newby, the Vice-Chancellor, said: "We are actively considering what steps to take to reassure parents and students and protect them against this disease. We shall seek expert medical advice and, if that means vaccinating all students, then that

is what we will do."

Last year two students died in Cardiff after an outbreak of the same type-C meningitis. Yesterday the National Union

A memorial service was held yesterday for the first student to die from meningitis at Southampton University. Mellissa Irvine, 19, who had been studying music and mathematics, had been at the university less than three weeks when she was struck by the disease. Her parents, Gordon and Gill, from Ruislip, West London, attended the service at St Mary's, South Stoneham, Southampton; a student band, the Jazzmanics, which Mellissa had joined, also performed.

of Students called for a broad medical debate. "This is not something vice-chancellors can make an instant decision on. We must find out if inoculation is the most effective way of fighting the dis-

ease," a spokesman said.

The Meningitis Research Roundation says the disease is ancreasing in universities. Cases in the 15-24 age group have more than doubled since 1994. First-year students in

three weeks when she
nts, Gordon and Gill,
ded the service at St
on; a student band, the

tioned yesterday by scientists
who monitor meningitis. Norman Begg, chairman of the
Meningeococcus Working

halls of residence are almost twice as vulnerable as others in the same age group.

The prospect of vaccinating all Southampton students on arrival next year comes after

dents last week.

In the same age group.

The prospect of vaccinating all Southampton students on arrival next year comes after the university was accused by some students of reacting too slowly to the crisis. On Monday it introduced a mass-vaccination programme expected to cover 18,000 people. That follows the third death, which came last Sunday, despite the

immunisation of 1,200 stu-

The effectiveness of routine

mass vaccination was ques-

Brothers are jailed for £30m alcohol fraud

By Stewart Tendler crime correspondent

TWO brothers who flooded London and the Home Counties with cheap alcohol in a £30 million excise fraud were jailed for 3½ years yesterday and ordered to pay £1 million

Kulwant Hare, 42, and his brother, Sohan, 49, both of Loughton, Essex, each pleaded guilty at Southwark Crown Court to four charges of fraudulently evading excise duty.

Lorryloads of beer and whisky were taken from duty-free warehouses ostensibly for export, but then sold cheaply to a network of shops and officences. A case of 12 bottles of whisky was sold for £70 instead of at least £120.

At an earlier hearing, another brother. Aviar, 37, a struck-off barrister who became an expert on customs law, was jailed for 5½ years as the alleged mastermind of the fraud. Yesterday his brothers were ordered to pay the £l million each or have a further five years added to their sentences. Aviar already has an order against him for the same amount.

amount.

His brothers claimed that the fraud was committed to save the family business, but Judge Jeffrey Rucker told them: "This was a fraud on a massive scale, and on the public at large. It made you large profits and you were perfectly happy to reap the benefits for the survival of the family business and to fill its

The brothers helped to run cash-and-carry warehouses which sold wine, beer and spirits at such low prices that they upset other traders, wholesalers and manufacturers. According to Kulwant Hare's barrister, he made £3 million from his part in the fraud.

fraud.

Richard Sutton, QC, for the prosecution, told the court that front companies had been set up to provide a distance between the goods being bought and the eventual destination. Shipments were made to warehouses across Britain and then shipped back to the Hares' outlets in Barking and Leyton.

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Mr Foster, the MP for Worcester, who published his draft Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill yesterday, is determined to ensure a big majority at its second reading on November 28. He and other MPs who support a hunting ban argue that a convincing majority could still persuade business managers to allow the Bill to have its third reading and go to the Lords.

"It will have been decided on a free vote and it will carry a certain moral mandate." Mr Foster said.

The Bill provides for maximum penalties of £5,000 fines and up to six months' imprisonment for huntsmen who flout the law, or those who allow hunting on their land.

There is growing pressure on the Government to include an anti-hunting Bill in the next Queen's Speech. Some Labour MPs fear a public backlash against the Government's refusal to support

Hamilton finds unlikely ally in Martin Bell

THE beleaguered former minister Neil Hamilton has recruited an unlikely champion in his fight to clear his name. Martin Bell, the anti-sleaze campaigner who beat him in the general election battle for Tatton, has agreed to take up

Mr Hamilton, whose threats of legal action threatened to overwhelm Mr Bell's election campaign, had a private meeting with his successor in the House of Commons on Monday. The unexpected meeting came on the eve of the Standards and Privileges Committee meeting to consider the verdict of Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner, that there was "compelling evidence" that Mr Hamilton took cash in brown envelopes from Mohamed Al Fayed, the own-

Mr Hamilton has had little contact with Mr Bell since their famous encounter on Knutsford Heath in the election campaign, when his redoubtable wife, Christine, berated the former BBC foreign correspondent for hounding an innocent man. But it was all smiles at Monday's meeting in the Commons at the office of the new MP for Tatton which, until May I. was the domain of Mr HamilThe former

Tatton MP has turned to his

old enemy for help, writes

Andrew Pierce

Mr Bell, who stood in the election wearing his trade-mark white suit, said: "I am morally bound, if Neil Hamilton has concerns, to try to do everything I can to help him. It

of the former MP. "We talked for 45 minutes. It was prefectly convivial with not a harsh word expressed. I made clear no view on the rights or wrongs of the committee's investigation."

is not as if I represent all my

constituents with the exception

Mr Hamilton sought Mr Bell's help in seeking to persuade the committee to crossexamine Mr Al Fayed and his employees over their allegations that they paid the former trade minister up to £25,000 during the 1980s

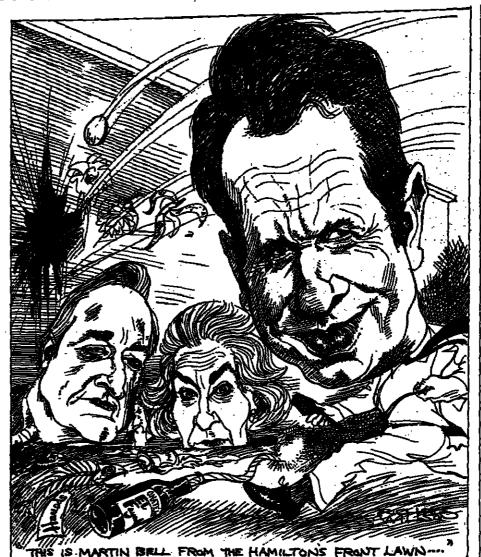
and his letter was delivered only minutes before the final deliberations began. Mr Bell said: "As his MP I will continue to represent his best interests. We had a polite meeting. He asked for my help

and I will give it to him."

Mrs Hamilton, a constant leature by her busband's side, was conspicuous by her ab-sence from the Commons meeting. Mr Bell had a kind word for her too. "I have put in an order for her book, about battleaxes of our time, and will hope to get a signed copy." he

After six hours the committee had failed to reach the required unanimous verdict on Sir Gordon's investigation, which was the firswt big test of the self-regulation of Parliament. When its deliberations on Mr Hamilton are completed Mr Beil is expected to become a member. Two Tory members, Quen-

tin Davies (Grantham and Stamford) and Ann Widdecombe (Maidstone and the Weald) refused to back last week's committee decision not to call Mr Al Fayed, the chief accuser, for cross-examination. They nmaintained the same position yesterday in defiance of the rest of the



the committee not to be swayed by the implicit threat that a less than unanimous endorsement of Sir Gordon's report would make his position untenable. The traditional cross-party co-operation on select committees appeared to be breaking down last night. One Labour MP said: "If we had our way we would have

found Hamilton guilty in ten

Mr Hamilton urged the committee not to "shelter" Sir Gordon. "To do nothing will merely confirm the contempt in which Parliament is widely held," the former MP said. Mr Davies and Miss

minded Tories. Mr Davies's

forensic cross-examination of David Willetts, the former Paymaster General, spelt the end of his ministerial career in the last Parliament during a related cash for questions investigation. Miss decombe famously demolished the former . Home Secretary Michael Howard's leadership ambitions.

Labour rebels facing long bans

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997

By Jill Sherman CHIEF POLITICAL

FOUR rebel Labour Euro MPs who refused to be gagged by the party face suspensions of up to a year after an appeal hearing in Brussels yesterday. panel recommended that Hugh Kerr and Ken Coates should be thrown out of the European Parliamentary Labour Party and lose their privileges for twelve months. The other two, Alex Falconer and Michael Hindley, will be suspended for six months if all 62 Labour MEPs uphold the recommendations later this

The so-called Strasbourg Four were suspended last month after refusing to sign which prohibited them from talking to the press about proposed changes in the electoral system for the 1999 elections to the European Parliament.

Yesterday's special hearing by a five-strong panel of Labour MEPs, was set up to give the rebels the opportunity to defend themselves. But Mr Kerr and Mr Coates refused to attend, describing the meeting as "a trial after the sentence". All 61 British Labour MEPs were sent the code, but the

four rebels refused to sign. claiming that that the proposed new party list system would remove old Labour MEPs in favour of Blairite

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Ministers facing first. test of scrutiny pledge

THE Government now faces the first real test of its often repeated commitment to strengthen the role of Parliament in scrutinising decisions. Gordon Brown's proposals to make the Bank of England responsible for setting interest largely a financial matter, of nterest mainly to the City. But they are of as much constitutional importance as other higher profile measures, such as devolution, since they involve a fundamental shift in the way that key economic decisions are taken.

The Bill, due to receive its Commons second reading next Tuesday, is very execurive-minded. The Chancellor will nominate the members of the new monetary policy com-mittee and will decide the inflation rarget. The committee will be accountable to him for this remit. Any changes in policy and interest rates will be reported to the Chancellor and publicly announced at a televised news conference. The Governor will also have to answer to the Chancellor for any significant deviation from the inflation target. These proposals are desirable and should ensure much greater openness in decision-making. notably via the publication of the minutes of the committee. But none of these changes directly involves Parliament.

Treasury ministers have made a lot of enhancing. parliamentary scrutiny by regular reports to, and ques-

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

tioning by, the Treasury Committee. The Bank's annual report will, for instance, be laid before Parliament. But the proposals make little difference to Parliament's role. The Treasury Committee already questions the Governor and other senior Bank officials at least twice a year, as frequently as is now proposed.

Of course, accountability is an elusive concept. While greater openness is welcome, the reformed Bank will be only truly accountable to the Chancellor since he appoints the monetary policy committee and fixes its objectives. But there is an opportunity for a much stronger definition that directly involves Parliament.

That is recognised by the Treasury Committee in its new report on Accountability of the Bank of England. The MPs have made sensible suggestions about how both the setting of the target and its implementation should be regularly scrutinised to ensure greater clarity in such important decisions. But the most important proposal is that the Treasury Committee should have a statutory say in confirming nominations to the post of Governor, deputy Governor and members of the monetary policy committee and be able to report to the

House of Commons stating its

the criteria of competence and personal independence and recommending that the appointment be not confirmed".

This would be an important check on the traditional prerogative powers of the executive to make appointments without involving Parliament. However, Ann Taylor, Leader of the Commons, has already talked about ratification of major appointments by select

Some commentators have suggested this is going too far, and risks politicising appointments. But the right of nomi-nation would still lie with the Chancellor, while the confirmation process could be tightly defined. Conferring such a right on the Commons along with approval of the inflation target - is crucial to ensuring that the reformed Bank is accountable to Parliament. There is a danger that the Treasury will try to fob off MPs with the alternative idea that they should have the right to question new members of the monetary policy commit-tee after they have been ap-pointed. But that is an empty gesture Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary, should remove any doubts, and accept the Treasury Committee's proposais on confirmation as an amendment to the Bill, when he gives evidence to the MPs this afternoon.

PETER RIDDELL

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on Politics

Parents win right to school of first choice

John O'Leary reports on a ruling

that could open the floodgates

A GROUP of children whose parents waged a year-long legal battle to secure places at a local comprehensive celebrated victory yesterday in a case which may open the way for thousands of others to demand their first choice of

The seven children, aged II
and I2, attended lessons at Old
Hall School in Kimberworth,
Rotherham, vesterday after Rotherham, yesterday after almost two months of home ith tuition. Their local authority had refused them a place even after the High Court ruled that its action was unlawful.

Rotherham council insisted an that the school was full and that the seven pupils lived

Their parents refused to accept defeat and clubbed together to seek legal advice.

The parents bought all the children school uniforms and textbooks and paid £120 a week for private tuition in mathematics, English and French. They took them to Old Hall in uniform every day to sign an attendance register before being turned away. from the school.

When leave was granted to challenge the council's decision in the High Court last month, Mr Justice Collins backed the parents and ruled that the admissions policy was unlawful. He said that the catchment area policy negated



The seven pupils returning to Old Hall School in Kimberworth yesterday after Mr Justice Collins ruled that the council's admissions policy had been unlawful

where to send their children, because the school was already full before they were allowed to express their

The authority relented only after the threat of an action for contempt of court. A council spokesman said: "After furher discussion with the head

teacher, the education director has concluded that the admission of the seven children would not at this time be further prejudicial to the provision of efficient education at Old Hall."

Bill Bainbridge, the head teacher, said: "I'm pleased the matter has been resolved. The children have not been in school for 72 weeks and have a lot of work to catch up." Mr Bainbridge said that the new entrants would put pressure on existing classes, which already had 30 pupils, leaving

of our children and parents can rest assured we will be working hard to make sure they are not disadvantaged in

any way."

The parents have always argued that Old Hall was the nearest and best school to little capacity for any families moving into the catchment their homes in the West Hill area. But he added: 'The rest area of Kimberworth. Dave

"I'm really looking forward to meeting all my friends who I Manderson, whose daughter Kerry was among the children was with for seven years at affected, said: "We live only 120 metres from the catchment primary school. boundary and other kids are "We've had lessons at home bussed in from miles away.

The admissions policy just

doesn't make sense," Before

going through the school

so I'm not too worried about being behind the others. I can't wait to go in.'

Council rejects official plan to save education

AN EDUCATION authority that ministers have labelled the worst in Britain yesterday set itself on a collision course with the Government by rejecting emergency improve-

The chief officers of Hackin ney Council, East London. and dismissed the advice of a government-appointed improvement team" as fifthin rate management oppor-

Their stance angered Sterath phen Byers, the School Stan-In dards Minister, but his office 191 yesterday admitted that it was owerless to force the council to comply ahead of planned

legislation next July.

Hackney, described by inspectors in September as out u of control, has seven failing schools and has been unable "in to recruit an education officer 50 for more than a year. The improvement team, invited in under pressure from the Gova remment, wants the post upgraded and four more senior education posts created by November 13, so they can be filled by Christmas.



Byers: cannot force council to comply yet

chief executive, advised councillors to throw out the plan at their education committee meeting tonight and give his ture time to work. He said further changes would cost at least £200,000.

"We had a system that failed which is why we have put the new structure in place," Mr Elliston said. The improvement team's proposals will do absolutely nothing to benefit Hackney's children."

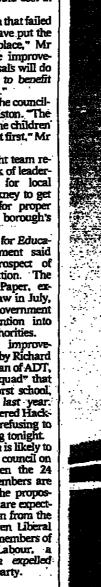
Mr Byers orged the councillors to defy Mr Elliston. The time has come for the children of Hackney to Byers said.

The improvement team report concerns a lack of leader councillors in Hackney to get behind the need for proper leadership in the borough's education service."

The Department for Educa-tion and Employment said there was no prospect of emergency legislation. The Education White Paper, expected to become law in July, would give the Government powers of intervention into local education authorities.

The four-strong improve-ment team was led by Richard Painter, the chairman of ADT, who led the "hit squad" that closed Britain's worst school, Hackney Downs, last year: Mr Painter has angered Hack-ney councillors by refusing to antend their meeting tonight.

The final decision is likely to be taken by the full council on November 13, when the 24 Official Labour members are likely to support the proposals. However, they are expect-ed to face opposition from the 12 Conservatives, ten Liberal Democrats and 13 members of Hackney New Labour, a breakaway faction expelled from the national party.



Drug-taking 'part of modern life'

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

the hallmark of rebels, losers and couch potatoes but part of the consumer lifestyle enjoyed

by young people, according to a report published today. Most people aged 16-24 using drugs recreationally are sociable and sensible rather than deviant, the report says. It condemns conventional images of drug users and says they are highly knowledgeable about the substances they take and the role they play in their

Drug-takers are no less moral than young people in general, the report, The Substance of Youth, published by the Joseph Rowntree Trust, says. "Most recreational drug-taking takes place as part of a

CORRECTION

Mr Q. S. Anisuddin (letter. yesterday) is a former vice-chairman of the UK Immigrants Advisory Service, not

DRUG-TAKING is no longer consumer lifestyle, not a deviant one." The report says there is no

overall drug culture in the UK and highlights differences across the country. In Wythenshawe, Manchester, taking drugs is a sign of conformity rather than rebellion while in fashionable circles of London and other

major cities, drug-taking may

be about innovation in style. The study by the independent think-tank Demos warns the Government that it will make no progress in tackling drugs effectively until the conventional image of drug-tak-ers is dispelled and says any battle" against drugs will fail.

One of the authors of the report warned the Government of the danger of allowing Keith Hellawell, its new Anti-Drugs Co-ordinator, to be portrayed as someone at war with youth culture. Mr Hellawell welcomed the report as providing a further insight into the complexities of



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MARKS & SPENCER is to open 25 small-scale food stores in city centres as part of an aggressive expansion plan which will create up to 5.000 jobs and bring it into direct competition with Tesco's high-street Metro stores.

The company, which for the past ten years has seen its growth led by out-of-town superstores, will almost double the number of small-scale shops within the next three years in the E2.1 billion expansion programme.

Like Tesco, it has 35 food stores which open late to catch people doing top-up shopping on the way home. The stores are normally about 12,000 sq ft, are 95 per cent dedicated to food, and located in city centres rather than residential

The competition will be most direct in Covent Garden. Central London, where Tesco opened its first Metro store eight years ago. M&S intends to move in next year, targeting the same market.

A Tesco spokeswoman said the company had been unaware of M&S's expansion plans, in which local stores will become the fastest-growing part of its business. M&S insisted that it was not changing its formula, and would open new out-of-town stores with the same enthusiasm.

In total, it is likely to add a further 60 stores to its 286 current outlets. Sir Richard Greenbury, the chairman, said it expected to create between 4,500 and 5,000 jobs over three years. After extensions to easing stores, its overall trading space will rise by 25 per cent.

The showpiece of the expansion will be a 200,000 sq ft store in Manchester, which will be its largest shop in the world, replacing two temporary sites it has used since its main store in the city was closed by an IRA bomb.

The company started life as a market clothing stall in Leeds when Michael Marks, a Russian refugee, set up business with Tom Spencer, a local cashier, in 1894.

nee sec ma extr fou

the are M&S results, page 2

'Food deserts' threaten health of poor and old

POCKETS of inner-city and rural Britain have become "food deserts" threatening the health of the poor and elderly. says the Government. Now ministers are looking at ways to improve nutrition levels.

Minister is to tackle shortage of fresh produce for those stuck in inner cities and villages, writes Valerie Elliott

More and more households are without easy access to communities to establish food co-operatives; encouraging su-permarkets over home delivshops selling fresh food. In the cities, "food deserts" are ery services; lorging partnerfound in areas where a fall in population has pitched local hops into decline and a ment and retailers; and examining the prospects for tele-shopping on the Internet doomed struggle against su-permarkets. Only corner shops remain, selling a limited at community centres. and overpriced range of pack-

and overpriced range of packaged foods.

In the country, the closure of hundreds of village shops and poor public transport has left people without cars facing enormous difficulties. The problem is worst for the elderly, the housebound and officient in essential nutrients."

Ms Jowell said the issues would be addressed in the consultative Green Paper Our Healthier Nation, to be published before Christmas.

Department of Health offici-

Ministers alarmed by the

scale of the problem are examining a range of policy

options to limit the damage to

health, including a review of

planning rules to attract

retailers to deprived urban

areas, outlying housing es-

FRESH food can be scarce

in the remote countryside.

In Devon the Soil Associ-

ation has set up food deliveries for the poor,

elderly and housebound

where village shops have

closed and transport is

fruit and vegetables from

ten organic farms for deliv-

ery directly to the door or

to a collection point. Some

farms will include fresh

in villages and farms near

Barnstaple and Bideford,

Totnes and Kingsbridge in

usual health problems connected with failure to eat a

nutritions diet. Isolation

Dartmoor,

The projects help people

People can order fresh

Department of Health officials are also to start mapping the food deserts throughout the country. While most are expected to be inner-city pockets, some market towns and

also brings high levels of

In the fenlands south of

Downham Market and

Swaffham in Norfolk, the

health authority is setting

up centres for producers to

sell their goods, and en-

couraging people to grow

Many villages have lost their shops, and it is diffi-

cult to keep food fresh between weekly shopping

Families were asked to

keep food diaries. Many

relied largely on conve-

Many young mothers

did not know how to cook

fresh ingredients. A coll-

ery courses and produced

a book of economical, nu-

trips to town.

nience foods

d outlying rural villages and hamlets will also be included. Food deserts are likely to be one of the first issues to be examined by the social exclusion unit in the Cabinet office. The differences between food at distribution across the country

Food Standards Agency.

Miss Jowell is to meet big retailers shortly to discuss the problems and to look at the possibility of new partnerships with them. She is impressed by schemes such as the one run by Tesco, which has an arrangement with councils in Ealing, West London, and Leeds to deliver food to the elderly, infirm and housebound. It also runs 100 free buses to their supermarkets at a cost of £3 million a

ined by the proposed new

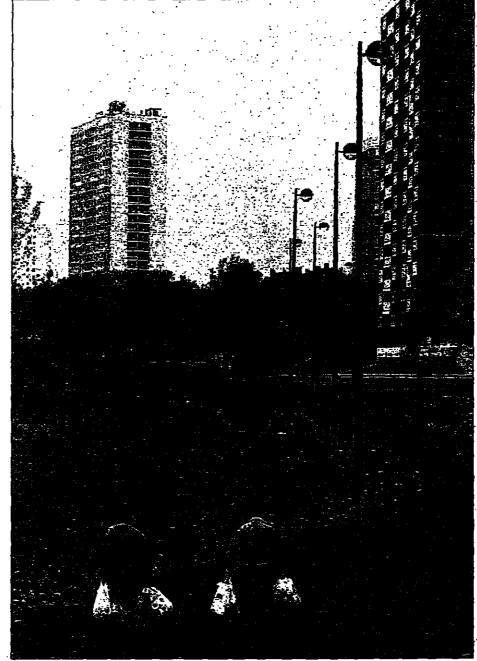
year.

Miss Jowell wants health authorities and local councils to consider nutrition when they draw up health action plans. She also suggests there could be a role for the proposed new healthy-living centres in helping certain groups of the population to have

access to good food.

Miss Jowell accepted the need to strike a balance between local shops and supermarkets: "On the one hand you don't want to drive corner shops out of business, but it is vitally important for people to have access to fresh food. We are enormously concerned about the effect on public health.

"There is no point people knowing how to eat in a healthy way if they physically cannot get to a shop with the fresh food. Virtually every major illness is related to social class and we really need to ensure that good eating habits are established in child-hood. We know that coronary heart disease, or predisposition to it, for example, needs to be addressed in childhood."



Shoppers face long walks, two buses or £5 taxi rides to reach a supermarket

Where fresh fruit and veg are a two-mile walk away

WEST EVERTON, one inner-city area identified as a food desert, has seen massive depopulation in recent years. Sixty-five per cent of inhabitants have moved away since 1993 and new shops are not viable; one supermarket that did set up is now a bingo hall.

did set up is now a bingo hall.

For a population of 6,000 there is one general store, but people have to travel, and usually walk, nearly two miles to a supermarket. Some 93 per cent of the people in rented accommodation, 67 per cent of households have

no adult in work and 86 per cent of residents do not have access to a car — one of the lowest levels of car ownership in Europe.

There are bus services, but most do not link directly to the supermarkets and people often have to change twice to reach a large store offering a full range of fresh produce. Two of the nearest stores concentrate on freezer products and tinned food.

The area is blighted by ill-health. Some 40 per cent of residents, have, a long-term

ren is affected by wheezing. Everton also has a standard mortality rate higher than any other part of Liverpool. The level is assessed at 170, where a standard index would be 100. Most deaths are caused by stroke, cancer or heart

Save the Children Fund has set up a programme in the area to help children. Clare Mahoney, the project's coordinator, said: There is chronic illiness in this area and people find it very difficult to get hold of fresh fault.

Pensioner jailed over birds that flocked to her garden

consuli

A PENSIONER has been jailed for three months for feeding birds and animals in her garden.

her garden.

Barbara Simpson, 60, was committed to prison for flouting council injunctions not to put out food on her 24 sq ft bird table. She was appearing at Winchester Crown Court for the fifth time this year since Weymouth and Portland Borough Council was granted the injunction. Mrs Simpson, of Preston. Dorset, admitted breaking the injunction more than 20 times. Purvaise Punwar, for Mrs Simpson, said: "The reason

Purvaise Punwar, for Mrs Simpson, said: "The reason she broke the order was quite simply, try as she might, she couldn't bear to see the birds she has grown to love over the years starve."

He said that Mrs Simpson

He said that Mrs Simpson had no children and very few interests in life apart from caring for birds and animals. Mr Punwar said that Mrs Simpson had previously been spending £150 a week on bird food. But since the final order she had been spending only £32 a week — principally for her 30 white fan-tailed doves. The council had sought the

The council had sought the court order after neighbours complained that thousands of rooks, pigeons and starlings would gather in nearby trees, waking them at 5am. They also claimed that the birds soiled their washing and windows and that leftover food attracted rats.

attracted rats.

The court was told that at times the bird food in Mrs Simpson's garden and on the verge outside had been a foot high. Mrs Simpson had claimed that local council photographs of piles of food were faked and her neighbours had lied in evidence.

Mr Punwar said the court should seek a long-term solution to the problem and allow Mrs Simpson to undergo psychiatric treatment and perhaps fine her for the breaches. Sentencing her, Judge Rog-

er Titheridge said: "It is a sad duty I have to perform on a 60year-old woman with an unblemished character. But she is quite unable to stop actions that involve contempt of court — but, more importantly, involve serious risk to the health

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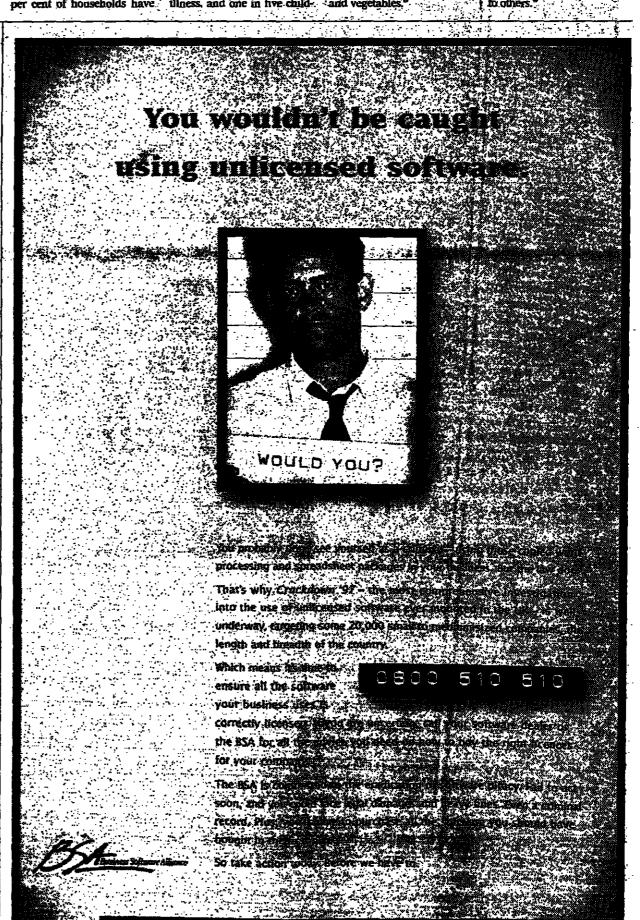
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EU to make firms consult workers on business plans

THE European Commission will prepare the way today for a new law under the social chapter that would require all but the smallest firms to consult their employees on future policy and would render void any sackings without such action.

The move, which would greatly extend an existing law that covers large multinational companies, is aimed at bringing Britain and Ireland into line with continental practice which requires firms to operate works councils.

The Government has criticised the idea as an unnecessary burden on business but, under the social chapter, which Britain is joining in the Treaty of Amsterdam, any opposition could be overruled by a majority vote.

The Commission's decision comes as ministers meet in Brussels today to prepare for the European Union "jobs summit" later this month at which Britain will press for easing the burden of regulations on employers. Tony Blair has been urging EU leaders to refrain from using the social chapter to pass new laws that could inflict more red tape on

Britain has already signed up to laws on parental leave, the rights of part-time workers and shifting the burden of proof in sexual discrimination cases. The proposed law on consultation will test the Government's commitment to improved workers' rights against the potentially conflicting drive for more flexible labour regulation.

Under the rules of the social chapter, the Commission will give EU employers' organisations and unions six weeks to decide whether to negotiate their own version of a consultation law. Failing this, Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner, will submit a draft law for the member . In an initial discussion this

New law under

social chapter would require

agreement on : sackings, writes

Charles Bremner

summer, employers resisted the scheme and unions fa-voured it. Two pieces of legislation have already been enacted through agreement between the social partners, as the employers and unions are

British officials said vesterday that Government favoured such negotiations as the best route for drafting the proposed consultation law. However, when the idea was first mooted last June, Downing Street said: "We are not in favour of new regulation in this area."

The legislation is intended to curb "social dumping", in which companies shop around for places that have low requirements in industrial relations", an EU official said. Britain, with its low employ-



Flynn: will submit a draft law if necessary

Continent to be the worst offender".

A commission document reeased today says the proposed iaw would provide equal treat-ment for all workers across the EU no avoid discrimination and to ensure greater compatibility between national provi-

It must enshrine "the right of workers to be informed and consulted . . . on the economic situation and the future outlook of the company and on any decisions likely to affect

This is intended to benefit workers and companies by improving morale and helping staff to adapt to rapidly changing conditions.

Mr Flynn wants the law to have teeth in the form of penalties against firms that flout the legal obligation to

Public pressure on the Commission for such action has come from highly publicised cases of factory closure, notably a decision by the vehicle manufacturer Renault to sack 2,000 workers at its plant in Brussels earlier this year.

The main proposed penalty would be to annul dismissal notices or any other decisions affecting the conditions of employment.

The Commission is not formally setting the size of com-pany that will come under the law, but Mr Flynn has cited a minimum of 50 employees as a desirable target.

Under the existing multinational law, which is deemed by many British companies to have been beneficial, only firms employing at least 2,000 workers in two or more member states are required to set up works councils.

The Commission insists that the new scheme should allow for a less formal structure than works councils.

George Soros, page 22 Letters, page 23



Tony Blair accepting a poppy from his wife, Cherie, yesterday. The Royal British Legion delivers a supply of poppies every year to 10 Downing Street, for use by visitors and staff, and the Prime Minister traditionally buys the first one

MPs' insults undermine all politicians, Nolan warns

WHITEHALL EDITOR

MPs are helping to reduce confidence in politicians by constantly insulting each oth-er, Lord Nolan, the public standards watchdog, will say tonight in a warning on the

dangers of cynicism.

Delivering the Richard
Dimbleby Lecture, to be televised on BBCl, he is also expected to criticise members of the public who accept and enjoy any bad thing they hear about others, and blames the press for its part in promoting the growth of cynicism.

While he accepts that the exchanges of insults by politicians is part of the democratic process, he believes that "constant and sometimes irresponsible blackguarding of each other, especially at election times" is partly to blame for declining public confidence in those in public life: "When they accuse each other of dishonesty the public can be forgiven if they take the accusations at face value. After all, the politicians should know."

He staunchly defends a free press, however, and the contri-bution that newspapers had made to expose wrongdoing. Newspaper editors do not share the public's low opinion of politicians, he points out.

Lord Nolan, who steps down as the chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life this week will stress that the public perception of sleaze runs far ahead of the reality, but he believes the jury is still out on Parliament's self-regulatory role and the success of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards. Sir Gordon Downey.

He will point out that the House of Commons itself made its own rules for the procedures of the new Commissioner, and will make clear that the issues will be reconsidered by the committee under its new chairman, Sir undetected."



Nolan: spoke about the dangers of cynicism

hopes that the committee will be given a role in monitoring the constitutional changes such as the Scottish parlia-ment, the Welsh assembly, the Greater London authority and reform of the House of Lords.

He will also highlight the need for tougher procedures on whistle-blowing in public life, and emphasise that democracy works in Britain because its actions are monitored by independent institutions and individuals: "It is underpinned by the integrity and political neutrality of the Civil Service, the judges, the

Armed Forces and police." Members of all these institutions must be prepared to protest against the misuse of power, he believes. While judges were well-placed for this, because they have job security, he recognises that it takes more courage for junior officials or junior police officers to speak up against perceived improper behaviour

of their superiors. "Yet, without their willingness to do so, possibly at great expense to the wellbeing of themselves and their families, great wrongs may be perpetrated and

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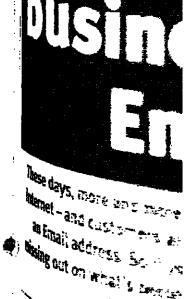
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TV cartoons 'draw children away from life'

Carol Midgley reports on alert by TV watchdogs that animation glut is failing young minds

CHILDREN are being starved of quality television because of a massive increase in the use of cartoons, broadcasting watchdogs said yesterday. The result is that an entire generation may be missing opportunities to develop critical abilities and wider interests

The Broadcasting Stan-dards Commission said that shows such as Play School and Playdays were becoming the dinosaurs of children's programming, as BBC and ITV increasingly sought the cheaper option of imported animations for a ratings war with cable and satellite

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On BBC1, cartoons formed 35 per cent of children's output last year, compared with 9 per cent in 1981 and 26 per cent in 1992. Pre-school programmes formed 7 per cent of the schedules last year, down from 18 per cent in 1981, and 12

per cent in 1992. On ITV, cartoons accounted for 40 per cent of output, and



Squeezed by the cartoon heroes, programmes such as Play School and Sesame Street helped to prepare children for school and widened their interests, says the report

ming fell to 7 per cent last year from 22 per cent in 1982. Over the same period, drama aimed at children fell from 23 per cent to 12 per cent.

When satellite and cable channels are included, cartoons make up two-thirds of all television for children. Lady Howe of Aberavon. chairwoman of the BSC, said: "The diversity of broadcasting

concerned. The tradition of public service broadcasting was to encourage the child's development as a good citizen, with critical abilities and an interest in a wide range of

Lady Howe added that her two-year-old grandchild was a great fan of the BBC's Teletubbies, "but that should not be all there is - there is offered to British children is declining, and we should be scope for much much more. Cartoons such as The Simp-

sons, Scooby Doo, Tom and Jerry and Disney's Winnie The Pooh had become the mainstays which squeezed factual and drama programmes, as ITV, Channel 4 and the BBC are forced to compete with dedicated satellite channels such as Nickelodeon and

Maire Messenger Davies, the University of Wales, who compiled yesterday's BSC report, The Provision of Chil-

the Disney Channel.

dren's Television in Britain. said that the BBC had recently treated pre-school programmes in a "rather cavalle ashion" and had invested all its pre-school budget for the next two years on Teletubbies. She also referred to an "ominous" cut in the children's budget from £60 million last

year to £55 million this year. old programmes such as The Herbs and Playdays were being repeated, but fewer new ones were being made, she said. "Teletubbies is for two to three-year-olds, but what about four, five and six-year-olds? What is missing is the old Sesame Street and Play School-type programmes which featured an adult other than parents talking directly

She said such programmes compensated children who did not have nursery education, and helped to prepare them for school, "Animation is cheap to buy and there is a lot of temptation to fill up airtime with it. Although it is good stuff, it seems a lazy way to

fulfil their requirements." The report suggests that the BBC, like ITV and Channel 4. should come under the control of the Broadcasting Act, which has a mandate to provide diversity in children's programming and protects time slots. In May 1992, first shows

daily on BBCl. In 1996. Playdays repeats were on daily. "Playdays has now come to an end and the BBC has no pre-school magazine programme with diversity of formats - storytelling, music. craft activities, comedy, direct address from adult presenters from different ethnic and regional backgrounds."

Later, Roy Thompson, of BBC children's television. said: "The BBC is now showing more pre-school programming than before. Teletubbies is longer and more ambitious than its predecessors. We do not understand the comments on BBC's decline in pre-school output. The BBC is committed to providing a range of quality programmes for children of all ages. We agree with Lady Howe that children have the right to varied programming."

Vanessa Chapman, ITV controller of network chil-

dren's programmes, said: "You will never see wall-towall cartoons on ITV. The report considers our output to be diverse and of quality."

Janie Grace, managing director of Nickelodeon, said that cartoons were cheaper to buy, but were the most costly entertainment to make, apart from film drama: "In a global world, cartoons can travei from country to country because they can be dubbed. There are more cartoons now. but they are a very good vehicle for education.

Nigella Lawson, page 21

ITN told to improve Channel 4 news or risk losing its contract

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

MICHAEL JACKSON, the recently appointed chief executive of Channel 4, yesterday issued a challenge to ITN to come up with fresh ideas for Channel 4 News or face-losing the contract to other

Mr Jackson invited television producers to come up with new proposals for what is, in effect, a pre-tender document for the future of Channel 45 news service, which has been provided, since the launch of the channel 15 a better channel of achieving that. The course of achieving that. years ago, by Independent Television News.

In a thinly veiled threat, Mr Jackson said: "No supplier has a

gramme, and that means there must be times when other providers are given an opportunity to see if they are up to taking over the

ITN was seen yesterday to take his comments very seriously when it immediately removed Sarah Nathan, the editor of Channel 4 News, and made it clear that the decision was a direct

The news organisation added

that it had no criticism of the editorship of Ms Nathan, who was the first woman editor of a

national television news pro-gramme. Indeed, ITN emphasised her achievements, including last year's Bafta award and exclusives such as Bloody Sunday, about the chaining of women prisoners. Ms Nathan will leave towards the end of the year and ITN says it will appoint a new

Although ITN faces potential opposition, its existing contract, which ran until the end of next year, has been extended to the

editor in the next few weeks.

another of its programmes, 5 News, Channel 5's primetime programme, will move from its

8.30pm slot to 7pm in the new year. The hope is that the halfhour programme, presented by Kirsty Young, will attract a larger audience at the earlier time. The change means that 5 News and Channel 4 News will be competing head-to-head at 7pm, the first time that separate news programmes produced by ITN have

competed so directly. Channel 5 also plans to produce a half-hour lunchtime news pro-gramme at noon for the first time. Vacating its 8.30pm slot would, by coincidence, make it easier for ITV to move News at Ten to 8.30, in O'Clock News.

Television, page 51



Sarah Nathan: casualty of shake-up

Spend more on drugs, NHS told

MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE NHS could cure its financial crisis by spending more on new drugs, the pharmaceuticals industry claimed yesterday. It said that increased spending on medicines would not only free hospital beds, but reduce unemployment levels, improve productivity and cut the social

services budget.
"In the debate about fundthat cost-effectiveness is not confused with cost-cutting," Peter Read, president of the Association of the British

Pharmaceutical Industry, said. A list of past successes is to be sent to a cost-efficiency team at the Department of Health to show that drug treatment has cut the average length of stay in hospital since 1951 from 45 days to eight days, and that, over the past 40 years, medicines have made it possible to halve the number of hospital beds need-

ed to treat 12 major illnesses. "For every 10 per cent increase in the use of medicines, ing the NHS, cost-efficiency is there is a 6.4 per cent drop in prevalent, but we must be sure the amount spent on hospital care." Dr Read said. "For every pound spent on drugs there is a £3.65 saving on other

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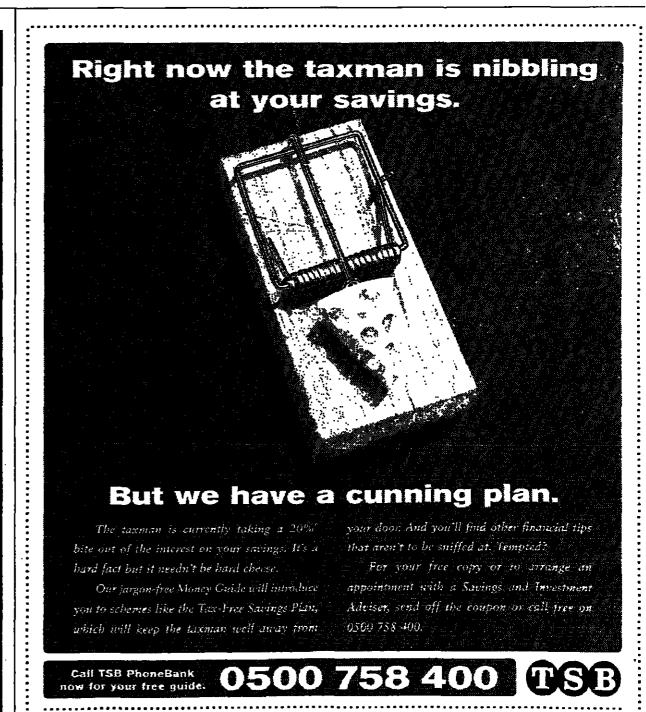
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Sleaze has little effect on voters' view of Labour

By Magnus Linklater

IT IS NOT too hard to predict the result of tomorrow's byelection in Paisley South. Barring anything unforeseen and Labour has spent most of its time ensuring that the very word is removed from the lexicon — Douglas Alexander, a 30-year-old Edinburgh solicitor and sometime speech-Gordon Brown, will be elected MP for this solid Labour seat.

Despite predictions of bitterness and rancour, it has been a surprisingly bland campaign. Mr Alexander seems to have been broadly accepted by the electorate as heir apparent to Gordon McMaster, whose suicide prompted the by-election. This is despite his relative youth, the fact that he seems the antithesis of the tough, West Coast Labour archetype. and that Edinburgh solicitors are not everyone's cup of rea in Paisley. "He's a lovely young man." said one Paisley ma-tron, "very young, mind you, but lovely." In fact 30 is not all that young. It's just that Mr Alexander looks more like 19.

That is about all anyone can say about him thus far, since he has been kept well away from the usual round of daily press conferences. His is the face that appeared occasionally alongside Mr Brown in those fly-on-the-wall television

PAISLEY SOUTH

the Treasury. He didn't say much then. He's not saying much now, "Where's Dougy?" has been the theme cry of the campaign as his opponents try to pick a fight. "A cut-out candidate," stormed one. "Running scared," said another. To no avail.

Labour's policy is clear: keep the temperature down, steer away from trouble and wait for Mr McMaster's 12,750 majority to be repeated on November 6. While all the other party leaders have been to Paisley, there has been no sign of Tony Blair. The very fact of the Prime

Minister's absence, as Sherlock Holmes might have said. is the curious thing about this campaign. The other curious thing is that sleaze, which everyone predicted would turn the by-election into as ferocious an affair as Tatton or Putney, has simply failed to ignite. Despite the best endeavours of Mr Alexander's opponents, the very word has seemed to lose its impact. It is as if its repetition has dulled the senses, and certainly the interest, of the voters. The SNP's Ian Blackford, by far the most impressive of the other candidates, has placed it at the top of the agenda and has pointed out that Labour's allowed it to flourish. He may well make inroads in the Labour vote, but not enough to overturn a seat as safe as this.

And yet Paisley was where Labour's image seemed most tainted. After McMaster's death, lurid allegations gathered about the nature of local bouring MP for Renfrewshire West, Tommy Graham, named in McMaster's suicide note, was said to have spread damaging rumours about him, and was suspended by the party. Mr Graham's election agent, Harry Revie, was accused of using threats and intimidation. A general sense of corruption became almost synonymous with the name of

Mr Alexander insists that

his party takes sleaze seriously. Yesterday, in a quiet masterstroke, the party announced that Mr Revie was being stripped of various offices, including his convenership of the property committee on Renfrewshire Council. If, tomorrow, the voters of Paisley do wonder whether Labour is capable of cleaning up its act, that could help them to make up their minds. But maybe they will simply go for "the lovely young man". ☐ General election result: G. McMaster (Lab) 21,482: W. Martin (SNP) 8,732: E. McCartin (LD) 3,500; R. Reid (C) 3,237. Lab majority 12,750.



Campaigning on the streets of the Beckenham constituency yesterday: the Conservatives' Jacqui Lait, left, and Labour's Bob Hughes



'ory running on a lukewarm formula

By Nicholas Watt POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tories should coast to victory in Beckenham, where comfortable London commuters have ensured victory for the party at every election since the seat was created in 1948. But two bugbears which led to the Tories' national defeat on May 1 — sleaze and Europe — have returned to haunt their by-election campaign.

Jacqui Lait, the pro-European who standing for the Tories, has been forced to cobble together an uncertain formula to show her lukewarm support for William Hague's hard-line stance on the single currency. Yester-day she professed herself to "be at **BECKENHAM**

ease" with Mr Hague's decision to rule out membership for ten years. Mrs Lait, 49, made history in 1996 by becoming the first Tory woman whip, and is a former parliamentary private secretary to Mr Hague, but lost her Hastings and Rye seat on May 1. She said: "I am a Euro enthusiast. but I have always been sceptical about

the single currency."

Mrs Lait is also having to cope with local anger over the behaviour of Piers Merchant, who resigned the seat last month after an affair with a teenage nightclub hostess. Mrs Lait insisted that voters had drawn a line under Mr

hard Tories are still smarting. John Cranstoun, 54, who owns a vegetable shop in Penge High Street, said: "I have voted Tory all my life, but I may vote Labour this time. You should not lie through your teeth. Lying is the lowest of the lowest."

Labour is relishing Mrs Lait's difficulties, which are overshadowing her campaign ahead of the by-election on November 20. Mr Merchant held the seat at the General Election. although there was a swing of 15 per cent to Labour. Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister who campaigned in the by-election yesterday, said that Labour now stands a "fighting chance" of winning. Bob Hughes, 39,

Merchant's behaviour, but some die- the Labour candidate, said that the success of the Government would attract voters from traditionally Toryvoting wards near Bromley, and that Conservatives should not underestimate the strength of the Labour vote in Penge, which has some of the most

deprived housing estates in London.

Mr Hughes, who concentrated his campaign in Penge yesterday, said: The perception of Beckenham as leafy Tory territory is wrong." Rosemary Vetterlein, who was third

in the general election, is standing again for the Liberal Democrats. General election result: P. Merchant (C) 23,084; R. Hughes (Lab) 18,131; R. Vetterlein (LD) 9,858. Tory majority: 4,953

'Sour grapes' could still yield good Conservative vintage

"IT'S NOT a fix-up. I swear," said Mark Oaten, the Liberal Democrat candidate for the Winchester by-election. Out canvassing with The Times vesterday morning, the former MP who won the Hampshire seat by two votes in May, had just been hooted by three drivers who slowed down to give him the thumbs up. Similarly, nearly all the local

people he had visited, from old folk to young students, had expressed their support for the Lib Dems.

Almost embarrassed at this demonstration of popular support. Mr Oaten insisted: "We've still got a lot of work to do. We cannot be complacent." The Liberal Democrats are desperate to paint the November 20 poll as a very close twohorse race with the Tories. Nominations close this afWINCHESTER

ternoon for the by-election which was called after the High Court declared the general election result void. Ballot paper irregularities showed that Gerald Malone, the sitting Tory MP, would have won by two votes if some incorrectly stamped papers had been counted. The Lib Dems believe the

closeness of the May result will persuade people to vote tactically against the Tories. They hope particularly to squeeze a few votes from the

6,000 people who backed Lab-

our in May. Labour is countering this threat by talking up the Liberal Democrat's chances. They claim their private polling figures show Mr Oaten winning with a 3,000votemajority. This, they hope.

voters feeling any need to shift their support to the Liberal

Patrick Davies, the Labour candidate, said: "If the Tories had any chance of winning Winchester, would they have held Beckenham on the same

The Liberal Democrats are also fighting to keep on board disillusioned Tories who backed them in May, and a

day indicated they might succeed. Richard Knowles, 37, a businessman, voiced a popular sentiment: "There is a strong element of sour grapes about his refusal to accept the general election result."

One Tory voter who refused to be named added: "He should have just accepted the umpire's decision."

Despite this, Mr Malone was yesterday in a confident

mood. He believes his support for William Hague's tough line on a single currency will help woo back Tory voters. But with odds of 6-5 on both Lib Dems and Tories, local bookies, like most people in Winchester, still believe that

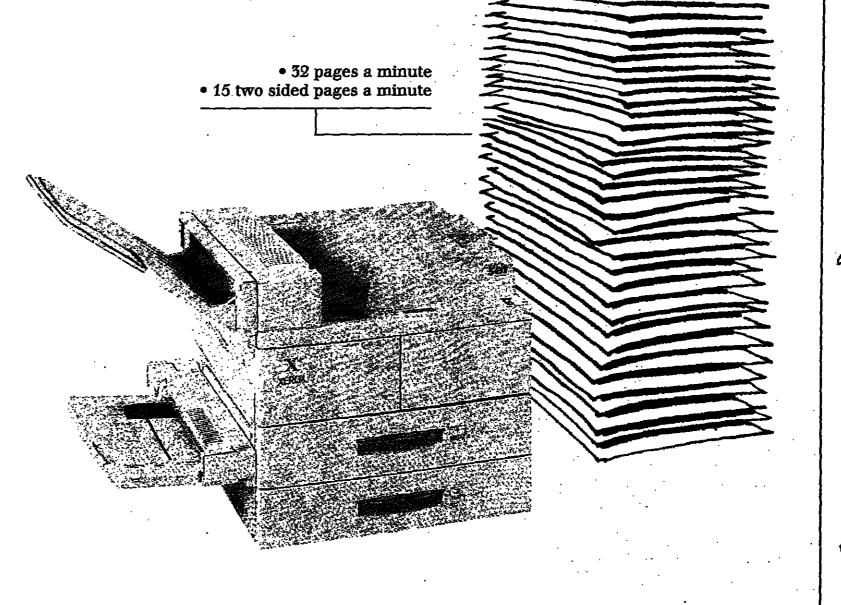
the election is still too close to ☐ General election result: M. Oaten (LD) 26,100; G. Malone (C) 26,098; P. Davies (Lab) 6,528. Lib Dem majority 2.



Mark Oaten: popular

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Irish lorry

attacked

as it rams

blockade

VIOLENT scenes erupted

near Lille last night as a

frustrated lorry driver tried to ram his vehicle through barri-

cades put up by striking

As an Irish driver, who had

been halted for 12 hours by more than 200 French lorries.

drove through the barriers,

French pickets tried to smash

his windscreen, and he drove at the crowd, injuring a union

leader. Pickets then tried to

block his escape route with a

van, but he refused to stop and

hit the front of the oncoming

An angry mob surrounded

the cab of the halted lorry, and

the driver locked his doors.

Union organisers pushed the

mob away, insisting that they

Brian Finch, bl, from Bromsgrove in Worcester-

shire, who saw the incident.

said the driver arrived at the

blockade at midnight after

delivering his load and was

returning with an empty lorry to Kilkenny.

"At first he seemed philo-

sophical about it all, but he returned to his lorry after

lunch and seemed very frus-

trated at the continued delay,"

Police were called to the scene and the unidentified

Irishman was arrested and

questioned for more than an

hour at the scene, before being

escorted away in his lorry with

The injured union leader

was taken to hospital in Lille,

but released after receiving

a heavy police guard.

Mr Finch said.

did not want any violence.



BLAIR yesterday Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, to take swift action to help British lorry drivers stranded by the worsening drivers' strike in France, as violence erupted near the port of Boulogne when British drivers broke

Mr Blair reminded the French Prime Minister that compensation owed to British lorry drivers after last year's strike remains largely unpaid. He said that France should intervene immediately to help British drivers stranded by the dispute, a Downing Street official said. "The French au-

Britain yesterday with the

closure of a section of motor-

way to accommodate queuing

lorries waiting to get to the

With drivers now facing

delays of up to ten hours to

cross the Channel, Kent police were forced to implement Operation Stack on the M20,

closing two junctions to create

a filter system for drivers

waiting to enter Dover. More

junctions of the M20 are

likely to be closed off in the

next few days if the strike

British lorries came under

attack yesterday when a convoy of British drivers ran a

blockade near Boulogne after

being trapped for two nights. French strikers were accused

of trying to disconnect air

to intervene immediately in the

lorry strike, writes Ben Macintyre

thorities have a duty to help them move on," he said. M Jospin assured the Prime Minister that his Government was doing its best to bring the strike to an end, but despite increasing calls from France's neighbours for direct government action the French Trans-

port Ministry said that establishing "transit corri-dors" to allow foreign lorries to move freely through France would be "inappropriate". Neil Kinnock, the European Transport Commissioner, described the strike as deplorable, and his spokeswoman said that legal moves against

France for failing to ensure the

Channel port queues force

English motorway closure

By Adrian Lee in calais and Kathryn Knight

The leading three drivers, Steve Durbin, Les Reagan

and Russell Forrest, said they

saw a gap when spikes were

removed to allow a French

lorry through. "We just decided to go for it." said Mr

Forrest, who was attempting to reach Valencia in Spain.

"As I gathered speed, one man tried to grab the airline

Mr Reagan, 42, who was

travelling to Lyons, said: "I

just decided to keep going after my two mates. There

were about 15 French drivers

and by that time they all

realised what was going on

and were all shouting. One

went for the brake line and

Two other drivers, Perry

kicked out at my lorry."

to lock the brakes."

damage to one lorry.

THE French lorry strike brakes on the 38-tonne vehi-began to make itself felt in cles and of causing minor

being considered. French Transport Ministry officials would be virtually impossible dialogue between drivers and

age firms, has not yet returned to negotiations, but an official said the group may return to

talks today.

Renault, the French carmaker, stopped production at
two factories yesterday as the strike began to bite. It said it was laying off workers at assembly plants in Douai and Le Havre after deliveries of spare parts were held up by

The number of illegal blockades rose to more than 160 yesterday as strikers demanding higher pay and improved working conditions dug in for

a long campaign.
On Monday night Jean-Claude Gayssot, the Transport Minister and one of three mmunists in the Cabinet. visited a barricade in Le Mans to hear strikers' grievances at first hand.

The economic effects of the strike are becoming apparent. All but one of France's 13 main oil refineries have been sealed off and Calais and Le Havre ports remained closed to freight.

Spanish agriculture associations, threatening a boycott of French goods, estimated that the strike could cost Spanish fruit and vegetable producers more than £100 million.

With fuel stocks dwindling, several regional authorities in France requisitioned petrol stations for the use of emergency vehicles and rationing was imposed in many others. Motorists queued for hours to obtain a maximum of £15 worth of petrol.

Panic buying was reported in many parts of France and supermarkets said there could be serious shortages by the end of the week. Oasis, the rock band, can-

celled a concert that had been due to take place in Paris last night after their equipment was trapped by a roadblock in northern France. Police have been reopening

some key border crossings and intervening to break up fights, but the Government has made no move to break The Commission backed a call from the the strike by force.

Dutch and Irish to hold an emergency council of transport ministers. Such a session could only be convened by Luxembourg, the current holder of the

Germany joined the chorus of com-plaints with a call to France to respect its obligations to its partners. Denmark is pressing the EU to ensure the passage of vehicles in transit, but officials said there France that it could face legal action for breaching the rules of the single market, but his staff watered this down, saying such a move was a distant last resort.

"Taking legal action against a member

state is a very, very serious endeavour. said Mr Kinnock's spokeswoman.

Free our drivers, Blair tells Jospin British Prime Minister urges Paris

through a strike blockade. In a 15-minute telephone conversation described as "ro-bust", Mr Blair warned his French counterpart that the plight of the Britons would be raised at the Anglo-French summit tomorrow and Friday unless the dispute was resolved quickly,

said that policing transit corri-dors for foreign lorry drivers and could provoke the strikers to far more radical action. They said that rekindling the

employers was the only way to defuse the crisis. But negotiations over end-

ing the strike were moving sluggishly. Another round of negotiations between union leaders and haulage bosses lasted just two hours. No date has been set for a resumption of talks, union official said.

Newell, 32, of Hampton, Mid-

dlesex, and Pete Barr, 39, of

Ashtead, Surrey, decided not

to try to get through. They were later allowed to go when

the French moved the barri-

cade. The strikers' tactics in

northern France appeared to

involve setting up blockades

for a few hours and allowing

The Channel Tunnel was

targeted for the first time

when drivers placed spikes on

the road to the departure

terminal at 11.25am. Police

gave them an ultimatum to

move within two hours and,

with two busicads of riot

police standing by, the block-

ade was removed 90 minutes

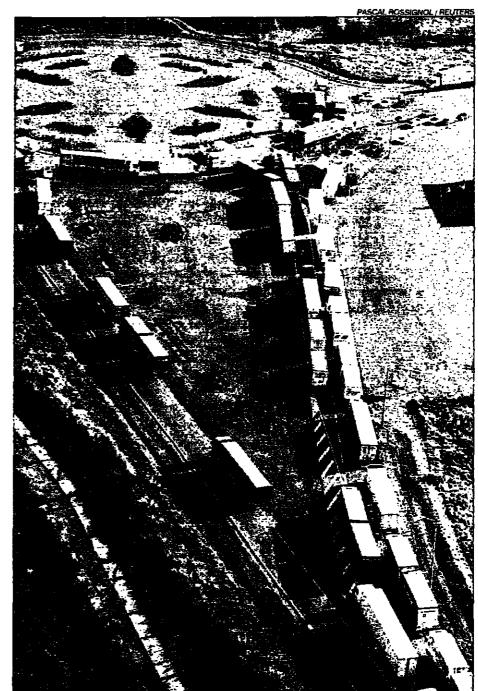
The Road Haulage Associ-

ation said yesterday that there

were now up to 150 blockades

throughout France.

long quenes to build up.



Striking lorry drivers block the A22 Lille-Ghent autoroute yesterday at Roncoq

Brussels admits it is powerless to act

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

GOVERNMENTS and companies across Europe yesterday deluged the European Commission with demands for action against the strike, but the Brussels executive conceded that it had little power

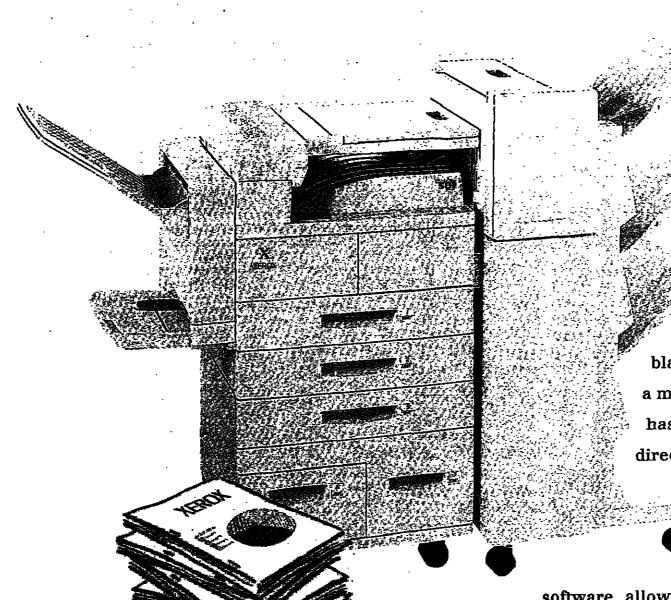
"The phones have been red hot all morning," said the spokeswoman for Neil Kinnock, the Transport Commissioner.

EU presidency, and it was unclear what results could be achieved.

were no means to compel France to obey. Mr Kinnock issued a fresh warning to

The Commission also said it had no powers to force France to pay compensation. Last week Britain reminded the French that only a handful of cases from last year's strike had been compensated and demanded faster action this time.

C vinilage



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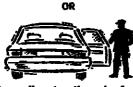




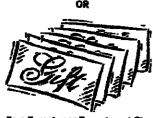
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'Diplomacy before airstrikes' for Gulf warships

DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

US NAVY

Loarrier: USS Nimitz with 77 aircr

2 cruisers: USS Port Royal

USS Berifold, USS O'Bannon,

USS Elrod, USS Gary, USS Ford

and fighter aircraft 1 landing ship dock: USS Coms

USS Dextrous and US Ardent

1 lending platform dock: USS Junea

1 attack submarine: USS Olympia

us assault ship; USS Pek

USS Harry W Hill (with Ton

AMERICAN warships in the Gulf, many carrying Tomahawk cruise missiles, and combat aircraft are on standby for action against Iraq if the United Nations delegation sent to Baghdad fails to persuade President Saddam Hussein to lift the ban on American arms inspectors.
There are 17 American war-

ships in the Gulf region with the USS Nimitz, the nuclearpowered carrier armed with 77 aircraft, patrolling the area as the most potent symbol of American firepower. Seven warships in the region are capable of carrying Toma-hawk cruise missiles. They are the two cruisers, USS Port Royal and USS Lake Champlain, four destroyers, USS Kincaid, USS Benfold, USS O'Bannon and USS Harry W Hill, and an attack submarine, USS Olympia. The carrier, which has on

board 14 F14As, 24 F/AI8Cs, 12 F/Al8Bs and four EA6B tactical eletronics warfare aircraft, and an assortment of helicopters, early-warning

aircraft and reconnaissance planes, has an impressive array of armaments. They include 4,6000,000lb of airlaunched missiles, laser-guided bombs, general purpose bombs and the anti-radar HARM weapon. Although any military ac-tion against Iraq is likely to be

confined to airstrikes or cruise missile launches, the US

Navy also has in the region a multipurpose amphibious as-sault ship, USS Peleliu, which has on board 2,100 "combatready" Marines from the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit. with three air-cushion landing craft. There are also four Super Cobra attack helicopters, six AV8B Harriers and 16 other combat assault and

The United States Air Force also has a large contingent of combat aircraft based in Sau-Arabia and elsewhere in the Gulf, including F117 Stealth fighters.

200 Air Force and Navy aircraft

The two U2 spy planes which have been overflying Iraqi airspace to monitor attempts by Saddam to conceal weapons of mass destruction

from UN arms inspectors are based at Taif in the middle of the Saudi Arabian desert. These advanced versions of

the American spy plane, now called U2Rs, have been flying on most days of the week. Although Saddam has threatened to shoot them down, it seems unlikely that the Iraqis possess air defence missile systems capable of destroying a target at such a high al-titude. The U2Rs fly missions at more than 65,000ft. They fly at subsonic speed and have cameras on board that can take minutely detailed closeup photographs of activities on the ground.

U2 planes completed routine flights over Iraqi territory sterday without incident, a UN source in Baghdad said. Although the US Air Force has retained two U2s in Saudi

Arabia, Paul Beaver, of the Jane's defence publications. said that sometimes the Americans used spy planes now based in the South of France on round trips, and occasionally the aircraft still used the US air force base at Fairford,

Yesterday Martin Indyk,

for Middle Eastern and Near Eastern Affairs, said in Doha, Qatar, that Washington would await the results of the would await the leaders of the UN mission to Baghdad be-fore considering military ac-tion against Iraq. He said the US was waiting to see whether diplomacy could persuade Saddam to change his mind

for the diplomacy to bear fruit, he said at Doha airport. Kofi Annan. UN Secretary- m General, has sent three en- 167 voys, an Algerian, an Argentinian and a Swede, to Bagh- an dad to try to resolve the crisis "S with Iraq. The team is due to ...t.

about ordering all American

UN arms inspectors out of the

country. "We do not rule out any option, but we will wait

arrive in Iraq today. ters of the Gulf Co-operation and Council have approved a plan ess to link their military telecom- and munications networks and set and up a common early-warning co system, a communique said i yesterday. The council groups (1) Saudi Arabia, the United on Arab Emirates, Kuwait, 18 fg. Oatar and also 1.5 Bahrain. (Reuters)

American forces are on standby in the Gulf. Washington has dismissed Saddam's threats as mere bravado

US vows to retaliate if Saddam fires on spy planes

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

IRAQ'S confrontation with the United Nations enters a critical phase today when a threeman UN delegation arrives in Baghdad hoping to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans serving in weapons inspection teams. A deadline set by the

ing Americans to leave the country expires this evening. Last night the United States warned Saddam that any Iraqi moves to endanger US reconnaissance aircraft in the region would result in swift American retaliation. William Cohen, the Secre-

tary of Defence, said any attempt to attack the U2 aircraft scheduled to fly over Iraq this week would result in serious consequences. He was speaking before a White House meeting about Iraq between President Clinton and congressional leaders. As thousands of Iraqis took

to the streets in orchestrated demonstrations against the United States, Baghdad declared it would use the meeting with the UN delegation to demand a "short and reasonable" deadline for lifting the "unjust" trade embargo in force since Iraqi proops invaded Kuwait seven years ago. The UN invists it will not bargain. There are fears any weakness now could enable Saddam to preserve the remnants of his weapons of mass destruction and even allow him to develop ones that are

more difficult to detect. Yesterday Irao again blocked routine weapons inspections in and around Bagh-dad because all three UN teams included Americans. But U2 reconnaissance planes serving UN weapons inspections were flying "without interruption" over Iraq, defving threats from Baghdad to shoot them down, a UN

Washington has dismissed raqi threats against the U2s

opening the trial in Darm-

stadt, said the four former

managers at Havert Industrie

smuggled around 85 rocket

launchers to Baghdad as well

as various components for

Scud B missiles, detonators,

explosives, equipment for use

in chemical warfare and de-

vices used to attach bombs to

In doing so, they broke

Germany's arms exports laws

and, using taked documents,

gained government export

guarantees. The men refused

to make any public statements

aircraft.

as mere bravado, apparently confident Saddam will not risk provoking swift military retaliation.

The three UN envoys, Lakhdar Brahimi of Algeria. Jan Eliasson of Sweden and Argentina's Emilio Cardenas, were expected to leave Iraq within 48 hours. No punitiv diplomatic or military action against Iraq is likely before the delegation reports back to the Security Council at the end of the week. The mission is led by Mr Brahimi, a highly respected and experienced diplomat who helped to nego-tiate an end to Lebanon's civil war. But diplomats said he could expect a frosty reception from Iraqi officials who see him as an ally of Saudi

Arabia. Even seasoned Saddam watchers were reluctant to predict his next step. "It's easier second-guessing Asian stock markets." said an Iraqi husinessman in Jordan.

There were suspicions Saddam might even welcome limited American airstrikes and cruise missile attacks, calculating they could deepen divisions within the Security Council and rally Arab

☐ Moscow: George Robertson, the Defence Secretary. said yesterday that Russia firmly supported other perma nent members of the Security Council in demanding that Iraq back down in its latest challenge to the international community (Richard Beeston

Despite fears that Moscow might take a more conciliatory line with Baghdad over its expulsion of American members of UN weapons inspection teams. Mr Robertson said that Moscow and Britain had exactly the same policy. He was speaking after meetings with Yevgeni Primakov, the Foreign Minister, and General Igor Sergeyev, the Defence

Germans 'sold Scud parts to Baghdad'

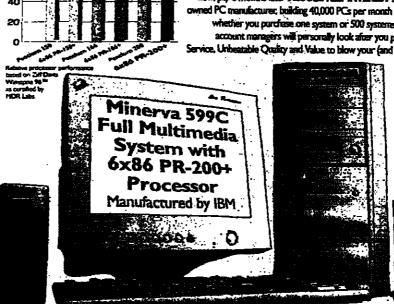
FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMAN involvement in to the court. They face jail supplying arms to President sentences of up to three years Saddam Hussein was exposed if found guilty. They were named as Gerhard Paul, 51. yesterday as prosecutors accused four businessmen of Hans-Jürgen Urner, 49, Hans Friedrich. 60. and Jürgen exporting dozens of Scud missile launchers to Iraq.
Prosecutor Ger Neuber, Bauer, 41.

The men had excellent contacts with the Iraqi authoriries. Customs documents filled out by the managers described the body of the Scud rockets as "seamless pines round in diameter. Military communications equipment was described as "erasers and school notebooks"

The trial is particularly embarrassing for Bonn as it comes shortly after two other German businessmen were jailed for supplying Libya with electrical components in the manufacture of chemical weapons.

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Zambia opposition leader 'tortured'

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN LUSAKA AND JAN RAATH IN HARARE

A · SENIOR Zambian opposition olitician has been tortured and starved by security authorities while under detention for alleged involvement in last week's failed military uprising, his lawyer said yesterday.

Dean Mungomba, a former international banker who heads the Zambia Democratic Congress, is the first opposition politician to have been detained under the state of emergency introduced last week. He was arrested on Friday, despite an assurance by President Chiluba that he did not suspect opposition groups of involvement in the brief coup attempt.

He appeared in Lusaka High Court after a judge ordered police to produce him. "He has sears on his ands and bruises all over," John angwa, his lawyer, said. "He has been tortured. He has lost a lot of weight. He looks like a patient from

During his brief appearace in court, Mr Mungomba was allowed to speak to journalists. He said he was being held in a large cell in police headquarters in the capital, with the alleged coup plotters, including the two captains who seized the state radio station at

dawn on Tuesday last week and broadcast that they had overthrown President Chiluba

Mr Mungomba's 28-day detention order alleges that he had acted with the alleged conspirators. "It is impossible to be involved with these people," he said. The police whisked him away from the court before

to examine him. Scores of other opposition figures and army officers either have fled the country or have gone into hiding since the security swoop on suspects began last week.

lawyers could arrange for a doctor

Human rights groups in Zambia have expressed their alarm over Mr Mungomba's detention and the harassment of journalists. The Lusaka-based group Afronet and the Law Association of Zambia condemned Mr Mungomba's arrest and described the declaration of a state of emergency as an abuse of human rights.

The incidents have heightened expectations that the Government will arrest other opposition leaders. including Kenneth Kaunda, the former President, and his political ally, Roger Chongwe, leader of the Liberal Progressive Front. In Au-

gust the two men were wounded after being fired on by police in what they said was an assassination attempt. They were out of the country when last week's coup

With hardliners in the ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy in the ascendant, President Chiluba has proved increasingly impervious to criticism. He has ordered the security forces to break up opposition rallies, targeted the press and lashed out at non-

government organisations.

Human rights groups have warned the Government that the state of emergency will again send the wrong signals to foreign govern-ments about political stability and undermine the confidence of investors in the country. Western diplomats in Lusaka say

that Mr Chiluba must tread carefully because donor countries will not take kindly to an assault on the Opposition without the authorities offering any evidence of its involvement in the plot. A freeze on donor aid was eased in July, but the funding is up for review again next month when a meeting of donor countries convenes in Paris.

Hitler's slaves await verdict

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THOUSANDS of former Nazi slave labourers and the German Government will be nervously watching a Bonn countroom today as a group of elderly Jewish women press home their long-neglected claims for compensation.

The ruling is expected to set a precedent for the survivors of the Third Reich's slave labour programme. Baron Klaus von Münchhausen. who has been campaigning on behalf of the 21 women, says the Nazis used and sold more slaves than the traders who for more than 300 years enslaved millions of Africans.

If the court decides the women can go ahead with individual claims against the Government for loss of earnings and pension rights, the Finance Ministry will have to open its chequebook.

The question is how many former slave labourers can consider the 21 women bringing their case as a precedent Conservative estimates range from 5,000 to 30,000.



The self-portrait by Rembrandt. The work is believed to date from 1632

Light cast on artist's unknown portrait

FROM CHARLES BREMNER

A PAINTING identified as a self-portrait by Rembrandt goes on display in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum today, after a leading Dutch expert said he had been convinced of its authenticity.

The painting, believed to date from 1632, shows the painter in three-quarters profile, clad in fashionable white ruff, black hat and gloves. The work had hung for years in the bedroom of a Paris art dealer who believed that it was one of many Rembrandt-style works.

After it was bought by a Dutch collector more than a year ago, local experts suspected it was one of the 50 genuine self-nortraits. Ernst van de Weterling, an art historian with 30 years as a Rembrandt expert, said his investigation had produced a body of evidence that confirmed the work as an original.

He revealed his conviction of the portrait's genesis in a book called Rembrands: The Painter At Work, published



Geimer: breaking her silence after 20 years

Polanski woman denies she was raped

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

TE woman in the under-age sex scandal that sent Roman Polanski into exile in Paris has said she was not raped by him, but that their encounter was not consensual.

"He wasn't forceful or mean or anything like that." Samantha Geimer said on television last night. "I just tried to get it over with. I cried after it was all over." Mrs Geimer, who was 13 at

the time of her tryst with the director of Chinatown, is now 33, married with two children and living in Hawaii. Her interview was the first in 20 years in which she has allowed herself to be identified, and could make or break Mr Polanski's attempt to be allowed to return to America. Her relationship with the

director, who was then 43, began when he asked her to pose for a photo session in Los Angeles, she said. After persuading her to remove her shirt during the first session he invited her to another at the home of Jack Nicholson. the actor, where he said "the light would be better".

There they drank cham-pagne, she remembered, before he photographed her in a bot bath and joined her. That was "when I realised something was wrong", she said. She protested before having sex, she said, but did not refuse for fear of his reaction. Mrs Geimer said she did

not "feel like a victim" and had no objection to Mr Polanski returning to the US. He fled in 1977 after pleading guilty to a charge of unlawful intercourse with a minor, for which he faced up to three years in jail. As part of a plea bargain, a more serious rape charge was dropped.

Mr Polanski's wife, Sharon Tate, had recently been murdered by Charles Manson. Mrs Geimer explained her

cagemess to take part in the photo shoot as the impulse of a young girl bent on stardom. "In my 13-year-old mind I was thinking When you're a model, this is how you're expected to act." she said.

US tour polishes Jiang's sullied image

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BELIING

A BEAMING President Jiang Zemin flew back to Beijing from a controversial visit to the United States yesterday, having apparently achieved his aim of boosting his image as a world statesman while giving little away on vital

Asked during a brief welcoming ceremony if he was nese leader, 71, said: 'Very

Beijing's suppression of pol-itical and religious freedom has earned the Chinese leadership international criticism. an image President Jiang was eager to dispel. But he gave little ground on such issues as human rights. Tibet and Taiwan, diplomats noted. Predictably, the Chinese Foreign Ministry yesterday pro-nounced the eight-day visit a

greaf success. Mr Jiang shook hands with Li Peng, the Prime Minister and number two figure in the Chinese leadership, at a short welcoming ceremony in Beijing's Great Hall of the

Diplomats say the President, with the advantages of the trip to the United States, and a new and better personal relationship with President Clinton, has built on earlier. gains he made this year after taking over the helm following the death of Deng Xiaoping. Mr Jiang, who besides being President and party chief, is the top figure in the army, has this year also successfully presided over the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong from Britain, and the 15th Party Congress, when he side-

lined rivals. "Jiang got good marks, and the success of the American trip has consolidated Jiang's position within the political establishment as China's top leader." said one foreign diplomat in Beijing. "He already held all the reins of power, but given he had not the revolutionary credentials of Deng or Mao, he needed to put his personal stamp on the leadership, which to a large extent he

has now succeeded in doing." There has been no hint in the Chinese press that President Jiang was anything but warmly welcomed wherever he went in the United States. There was no reporting in the controlled press of demonstrations calling for a free Tibet or an independent Taiwan. President Jiang admitted in the US, however, that protesters who dogged his steps taught him something about American democracy.

New Zealand poll hint

election if Winston Peters, the New Zealand First party leader, fulfils his threat to pull his party out of the coalition Government because he was not consulted about leadership changes in the National Party (Cathie Bell writes).

Wellington: New Zealand ger, the Prime Minister, to could be faced with an early resign after getting sufficient support to topple him during the two weeks he was at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh and on an official visit

Mrs Shipley, 45, seemed almost certain to become Jenny Shipley, the Transport Minister until Mr ters voiced his opposition. Prime Minister until Mr PeIt's not just NatWest business

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Conscience of Delhi stirs over animals' burden

From Christopher Thomas in delhi

THE Indian Government is showing signs of bowing to the concerns of animal rights usually buy frail animals cheaply from auctions and work them until they drop. activists, in a country where large parts of the economy depend on overworked beasts of burden. The bullock, vital to small

farmers, is perhaps the most routinely tortured species. Owners inflict pain to force bullocks to haul huge loads: some use chilli powder on sensitive parts of the body to make them work harder.

Most of the animals are sent to slaughterhouses while still young because they quickly become too weak to work. There are an estimated 15 million working bullocks in India, and most suffer damaged necks - the usual reason for premature retirement -

from hauling excessive loads. The owners say their animals have to carry large loads

The law, never enforced, provides for a fine of 100 rupees (£1.75) for beating, ill-treating or torturing an animal. The practice of castrating bullocks by tying them by all four legs and smashing their genitals with a rod is commonplace.

However, the Government is tackling one of the most familiar and disturbing images of urban India: caged and often dying birds being carried around on the backs of bicycles by hawkers. India has reinforced a ban on bird trapping to save hundreds of exotic species from one of the country's cruellest and oldest

The trade is pursued mostly by tribal Indians, whose collective knowledge of breeds, habitat and migration habits to compete with lorries. They of colourful birds is almost

unequalled. They use the same trapping techniques devised centuries ago, often involving nothing more than string and a noose. Perhaps 30,000 people depend on the trade.

Effective controls over cruelty to animals are scarce in a country where there is so cially to hundreds of thou-sands of children producing fireworks, cigarettes, matches. carnets, glass and other goods. But animal welfare is creeping on to the political agenda and the effort to control bird trafficking promises to be one of the most effective moves against animal torture.

The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 was reinforced in 1990 to control the export of live birds; recent provisions have extended the law to local trading in live birds. The main domestic traders are pet-shop owners. Middlemen seek exot-



A bullock drawing a dray in Delhi. The animals are routinely mistreated by their impoverished owners

ic birds for foreign buyers. The export ban is reasonably easy to enforce because of the visibility of the trade. But customs inspectors are sometimes bribed and bird sellers

most Indian cities. The birds are kept in tiny cages and die if they are not quickly sold. Perhaps the most fortunate animals in India are cows.

devouring leftovers from homes and vegetable markets. Many are diseased, however. catchers in Delhi used to remove the animals and put

practice was halted when Hindu religious leaders protested. Packs of stray dogs, now protected against capture and slaughter despite the threat of rabies, add to Delhi's burArgentine **President** is invited to Britain

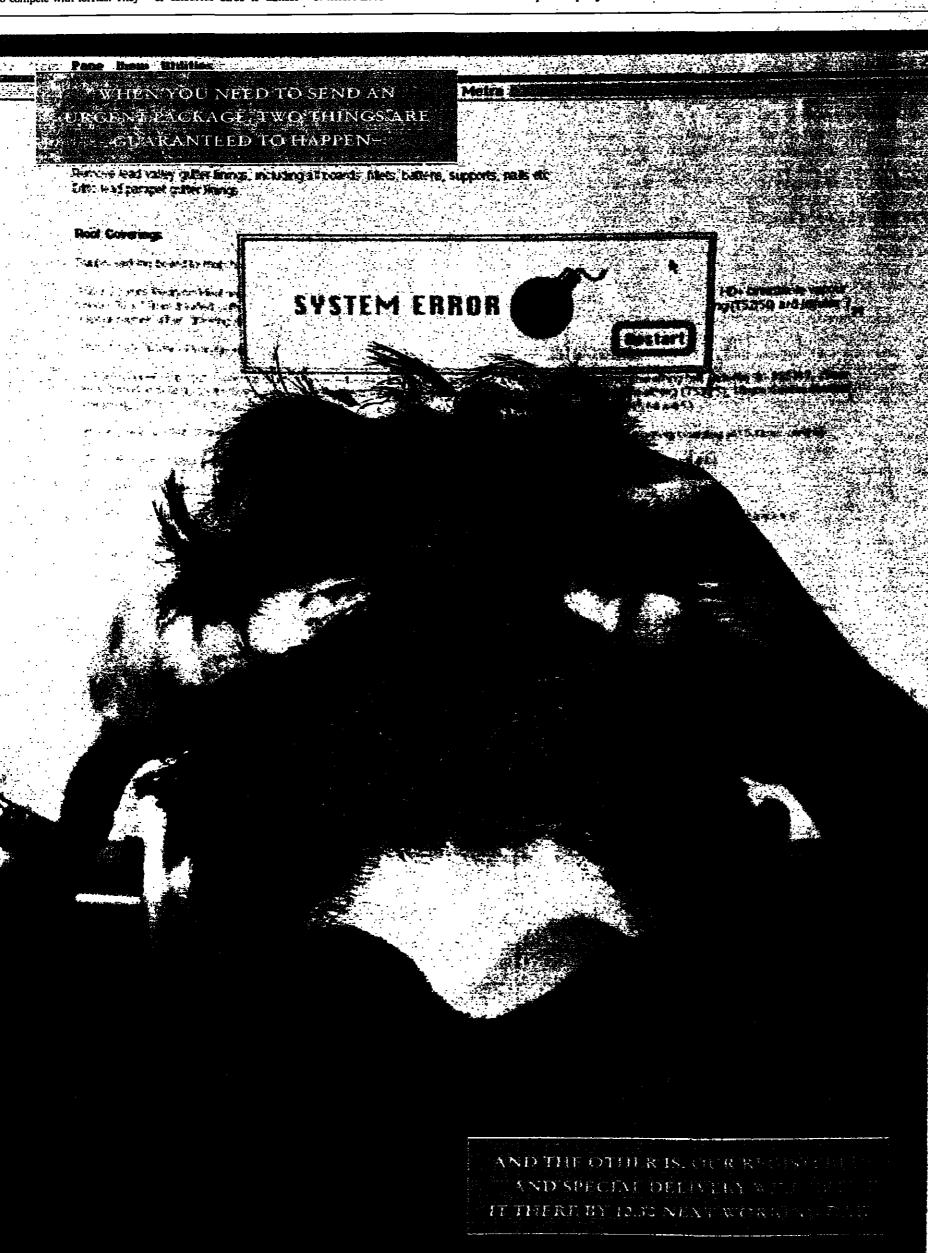
By MICHAEL BINYON

THE Government invited. President Menem of Argentina yesterday to pay an official visit to Britain in recognition of burgeoning trade and political relations and his efforts to improve relations since the

Faiklands war. No date was set, but in talks yesterday between Robin Cook the Foreign Secretary, and Guido di Tella, the Argentine Foreign Minister, it was suggested that Señor Menem might come in the second half of next year. His term of office expires in 1999 and he is constitutionally barred from running again.

An invitation was extended originally by John Major at the United Nations in September 1995, when Britain signed a new oil agreement on under-Falklands.

The invitation was then put on hold because the Conservatives did not want possible controversy over the islands to surface before the general



WORLD IN BRIEF

4,000 feared dead in Vietnam storm

Hanoi: At least 132 people were killed and up to 4,000, most of them fishermen, were missing after a typhoon hit Vietnam

southern coast. Thousands were left homeless by Typhoon Linda, which destroyed buildings, roads, bridges and dykes at the weekend before heading west to the southern coast of Thailand. Thai government officials said Linda killed two people and injured two on Monday night as it moved towards Bangladesh, but it lost some of its power and was downgraded to a tropical storm. About 1,330 boats foundered and a further 1,500 disappeared. At least three fishermen would have been on board each of the boats that have disappeared. (Reuters)

Floods sweep East Africa

Nairobi: Floods and rain across the eastern highlands of Ethiopia, southern Somalia and northern Kenya have killed dozens of people and displaced thousands of others, aid agencies reported. They said torrential storms and floods biamed on the El Nino phenomenon have washed away roads, affecting countries up and down East Africa in the past ten days, and feared there could be worse to come. "If the rains continue to be as heavy as they have been in the past week, we could be looking at a major crisis," said Burk Oberle, Somalia director of the United Nations World Food Programme. (AFP)

Plea by backpacker killer

Sydney: Ivan Milat, right, the Austra-lian jailed last year for life for the murder of seven backpackers, including two British women, appealed against his conviction in person yester-day (Roger Maynard writes). Milat, 53, told three judges in Sydney that his case had been prejudiced by pre-trial publicity. He argued that evidence given by Paul Onions, a British tourist attacked by a man fitting Milat's description, had been misrepresented in the judge's summing-up.



Sur vous o

US hardens Sudan sanctions

Washington: Civing Sudan's support for terrorism, the United States is imposing severe economic sanctions that include a ban on bank loans and seizure of Sudanese assets in the United States. President Clinton signed an executive order also barring the shipment of American technology to Sudan and the importation of its goods. Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, said: "We take these steps because the Government of Sudan has failed to respond to repeated expressions of concern or to the imposition of lesser sanctions." (AP)

Nuclear protesters arrested

Hamburg: German police detained 64 activists demonstrating outside a north German nuclear power station, where a shipment of radioactive waste bound for the Sellafield reprocessing plant in Combria began its journey. The police said that the protesters had tried to prevent a railway engine from entering the grounds of the Kruemmei power plant, just east of Hamburg. The power plant operators said that the train left for England during the afternoon. (Reuters)

MP tells of 'Rao bribe'



Delhi: An Indian court here began hearings on vote-buying charges against P.V. Narasimha Rao, left, the former Indian Prime Minister. The Mahata and Charles Mahata and Charles Mahata and Charles Mahata and Charles Mahata court heard Shailendra Mahato, and opposition MP, claim that he had received more than £68,000 for helping save Mr Rao's minority Government during a parliamentary vote in 1993. The bribes were allegedly paid to four members of a regional party and seven others from an opposition group to side with the Government. (AFP)

Afghan short cut to paradise

Kabul: The Taleban are cutting hair forcibly in Kabul in their drive to turn Afghanistan into a pure Islamic state. We are cutting hair that hangs over the forehead because when you pray it gets in the way of your forehead touching the ground; the Devil stands between you and God," said Maulawi Abdul Rashid Darkasti, of the Taleban religious police, formally known as the Department for Promoting Virtue and Preventing Vice. (Reuters)

Thai coalition seeks leader

Bangkok: Thailand's shaky coalition Government is struggling to agree on a successor to Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, the Prime Minister, who plans to resign this week. The supporty coalition, in power for II months, has agreed to remain together but has yet to decide who would replace Mr Chavalit, who has been under pressure because of the country's economic crisis. (Reuters)

Peak-rate calls for troops

Srinagar: India has installed what is claimed to be the world's highest public telephone boods on the 20,000 ft Siachen Glacier in Kashmir so that soldiers fighting in a border dispute with

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Diana police call in Fiat **owners**

atime

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRENCH police investigating the death of Diana Princess of Wales, have begun calling in thou-sands of Fiat Uno car owners for questioning in an attempt to find a vehicle that may have collided with the Mercedes limousine carrying the Princess moments before her fatal

Chemical and spectrographic analysis of scrapes found on the right side of the wrecked Mercedes have identified a white paint corresponding to a type known as bianco-corfu, used by Fiat on its Uno model between 1983 and August 1989. Some 40,000 Fiat Unos with those specifications are registered in

France. The police search, which could take months, began in the Hauts-de-Seine region on the out-skirts of Paris, where 1,800 such cars are registered. Owners were summoned for interview.

If the car is not found in the initial sweep, the hunt. another 70,000 Fiat Uno owners in France and then to other makes of car.

< facing first

cutiny pled

Last week scientists from the National Police Institute for Criminal Re-search outside Paris submitted a forensic report to Hervé Stéphan, the magistrate leading the investiga tion, which concluded that the scrapes were most probably left by a Fiat

The paint scrapes also correspond to paint used on three additional Fiat models and six other makes of car, but the Fiat Uno theory is reinforced by the discovery of fragments of a Fiat Uno rear before the point of impact, The Mercedes has been completely dismantled still being

examined ☐ Berlin: Just two months after her death, Diana. Princess of Wales, has become the subject of an academic course at Berlin's Free University. "Myths and politics: Diana - from the Princess of Wales to the Queen of Hearts" is a 14-part lecture series launched last week by the university's political science department. (Reuters)

Playboy scientist gives astrology five-star rating

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

has recorded the hour of birth

marriages conducted in Swit-

zerland between 1987 and 1994

- focusing on 717,526 men and

The scientists studied all

of every citizen.

A WIDE-RANGING statistical study charting the influence of star signs on marriage. work, love and death has been produced by the unlikely fig-ure of Gunther Sachs, lamed as one of Europe's most energetic playboys.

His book. The Astrology File, is set to become a bestseller in Germany if only because of readers' curiosity about the silver-haired millionaire who was once married to Brigitte Bardot; he is a constant feature of tabloids as an habitue of nightchubs and ski slopes. The book does, however, make a serious attempt to test the assumptions of newspaper astrologists and concludes that star signs do

play a significant part in women. Marriage and divorce shaping lives.

Mr Sachs, who studied all the obvious distortions had mathematics, set up an insti-tute for "the empirical and been factored out, Mr Sachs's team of scientists agreed on the three most durably attractmathematical examination of the possible truth of astrology in relation to human behaved star partnerships: Capricorn male with Pisces woman; iour". Two well-known statis-Pisces man with Scorpio woman; Gemini man with ticians from Munich University double-checked to ensure Taurus woman. The three no distortion had crept into the analysis of the data, mostly appear to be: Libra male with from Swiss authorities. Swit-Aries women: Aries man with Leo woman: Gemini man with zerland has held a regular census since 1850. Since 1875 it Capricorn woman.

Mr Sachs, a 65-year-old Scorpio, said that "the husband of a Gemini woman lives with a higher than average risk of divorce". He has himself been married to a Gemini the former Swedish model Mirja, for 28 years. "I hope that this status quo persists in spite of the stars."

Mr Sachs, who became a Swiss citizen, also examined 1.195.174 Swiss deaths between 1969 and 1994. Narrowing the causes of death to 20, he found disturbing patterns: Leos had a tendency to die of strokes. Leos and Librans were prone to lung cancer, Scorpios and Capricorns to stomach cancer, and Pisces were vulnerable to accidental death and breast

The database for suicide was narrower - 30,358 men



Sachs and present wife, Mirja. According to his theory, it is a star-crossed match

and women - but enough to draw conclusions: Taurus, Pisees and Cancers were more likely to kill themselves: Librans and Sagittarians were least likely. Pisces suicides preferred sleeping pills, Tau-rus exhaust fumes and Cancers often shot themselves.

Data from the British Accident and Insurance Management company, collecting information on those involved

in 25,000 car accidents. showed that Taurus and Virgo drivers were more accidentprone, while Leos and Scorpios were better drivers. Data from 231,036 German students confirmed stereotypes of newspaper astrologists: Librans showed a significant inclination to study law.

Mr Sachs claims his study was "the first time that astrology has been put on a scientifically supported basis". He argues that astrology is a source of fascination for individuals and governments, yet they are embarrassed to declare their interest. "Astrology is like a fiery red-haired, wellendowed, much-desired mistress -- who is nonetheless hidden away from the world." It took a playboy scientist, he

says, to bring this passion into

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because the cards are

Moscow signs up for mine clearance

By RICHARD BEESTON RUSSIA yesterday signalled

that it was serious about its pledge to ban landmines, when the Delence Minister promised to work with Britain on a project to promote mine clearance around the world. Speaking after a meeting in Moscow with George Robertson, the visiting Defence Secretary, General Igor Sergeyev said a Russian team of experts would come to Britain next year to co-ordinate efforts with the British Army. Last week Mr Robertson announced plans for the opening early next year of a Mine Information and Training Centre which will assisi organ-

mines.
Russia was the first country to be invited and General Sergeyev accepted immediately and reiterated his support for President Yeltsin's surprise announcement last month in Strasbourg that Moscow would join the Onawa Process to ban anti-personnel mines. The endorsement of the military is regarded as vital because Russia is one of the world's largest manufacturers of mines and used them extensively during conflicts from Afghanistan in the 1980s to Chechnya in the mid-1990s.

isations involved in clearing

Mr Robertson and General Sergeyev also agreed to strengthen military ties by establishing meetings of senior military officers and endorsed plans for regular joint manoeuvres by their navies.

MINOLTA

Mir orbits Earth with door open

Sachs and his former wife, Brigitte Bardot, in Spain

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S cosmonauts faced a new peril in the space station Mir yesterday, when mission control announced that the outer hatch on the orbiter had

not closed properly. After several successful efforts to repair Mir, including spacewalks and the replacement of the onboard compu er, the two Russian cosmoastronaut were faced with the uncomfortable prospect of effectively orbiting the Earth

with their door open. The problem arose after Anatoli Solovyov, Mir's commander, and Pavel Vinogradov, the flight engineer, completed a gruelling six-hour spacewalk on Monday to remove a solar panel, which will be replaced tomorrow during

a second spacewalk. The operation was delayed after mission control in Moscow reported that Mr Solovyov's spacesuit was not functioning properly and was.

failing to transmit information about oxygen supplies and other vital data. The walk went ahead regardless, but after the two Russians returned through the Kvant-2 module they realised that the outer hatch had not been sealed properly.

When they came into of the airlocks]," an official for mission control, outside Moscow, said, "they realised that the hatch had not been closed airtight." She said that the problem did not endanger the crew. The module has three airtight compartments and similar malfunctions in the

past have been overcome. The setback is a relatively minor blip on what has been a comparatively accident-free period for Mir. But earlier this year the space station suffered a serious fire, the failure of its oxygen generators and, in the summer, the orbiter was badly damaged in a collision with a supply ship.

Balkans

leaders set

sights on

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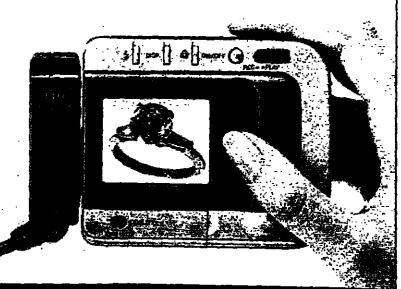
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wildtle to residents of England, Scotland and Wates,

prosperity FROM REUTERS IN AGIA PELAGIA, CRETE BALKAN nations called yesterday for their bloodstained

history to be put behind them and replaced by an era of peace and prosperity. Greece, Turkey, Romania, Yugoslavia, Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria and Bosnia ended a two-day summit on Crete agreeing to create a framework for economic growth and political

We shall work together to create in our region conditions for the prosperity of our nations in a framework of peace, security, good-neigh-bourdness and stability," they said in a final declaration.

But the leaders did not have to look far to see how difficult a task they face. A bilateral meeting on Monday between Costas Simitis and Mesut Yilmaz, the Prime Ministers of Greece and Turkey, made scant progress in solving their problems over Cyprus and the

Despite the failure, the Balkan nations all said they were determined to build closer regional ties - accepting that it would take time. "The road is still long. These countries, like us, have problems. But we hope that with time they will be able to face them." Mr Simitis said.

The leaders set up a framework for future links and ers, support the rule of law, and fight crime and drug smuggling across the region.

Women - the inferior sex



In our final extract of his biography of Alfred Kinsey, James H. Jones looks at how Kinsey's dismissive, misogynistic attitude to women's sexuality was greatly at odds with his philosophy of sexual liberation

conceal his low estimation of women's sexuality. In 1948 he told a journalist that the average girl under 20 engaged in sexual activity for social, not sexual, reasons: "It means dates with boys, automobile rides, shows and hilarious company. If intercourse is part of the tax, OK, so long as the other girls in her group are similarly involved." For emphasis, he added: "The drive involves the boy, not the girl."

Many women who had read the male volume took umbrage at his remarks. Some wrote, hoping to disabuse him of his misconceptions. All insisted females were not sexually inferior to males. A few claimed superiority. None made the case for female sexuality more

forcefully than a 35-year-old from the Midwest with two young sons. A single parent, her main outlet was masturbation. "I have an outlet of approximately 130 a month," she wrote. "I know six women whose husbands could only partially satisfy them."

Many Americans did not want to hear what Kinsey had to say, fearing he would knock women off their pedestals. Others were afraid he wouldn't. Kinsey was in a

female sexuality was counterproductive. It did not fit in with his ideology of sexual liberation. For if he was predisposed to discount women's sexual capacity, he put the highest premium on the need for a sexual revolution. But how was the revolution to be achieved if half the troops were not at the barricades? It was far from clear whether Kinsey would resolve the tension between his misogyny and his

life's mission. Kinsey and Wardell Pomeroy did most of the interviewing for the female volume. The fact that no women were incuded among the interviewers for the male volume was not lost on the female subjects. Declaring herself "somewhat perturbed to learn that a large part of the done by men", a woman from Pennsylvamistake. But the absence of female interviewers did not stop women co- a spouse or the social code.

operating; indeed, volunteers lined up in droves to offer their histories. Many were curious about what the experience would be like, some had problems they hoped to solve, while others held liberal views on sex. Some, however, wished to support

Kinsey began writing in the summer of 1951, and continued for the next 18 months. To improve the sample, he removed prisoners and many lower-class subjects, and cleaned up most of the minor statistical errors that had annoyed reviewers of the male volume. He also increased the number of cases supporting the text, providing a firmer factual foundation for his data. Many of his statements drew on his personal observa-

A lot of

women

took

umbrage

at Kinsey's

remarks

tions of human sexual behaviour, as well as his observations of the sexual behaviour of lower mammals.

As with men, Kinsey's data showed a wide gap between the conduct society expected of women and how they actually behaved. Kinsey found 62 per cent of the women in his sample had masturbated; 66 per cent had had sex dreams; 90 per cent had petted; nearly 50 per cent had had premarital intercourse; 26 per cent had extramarital

bind. Politically speaking, his opinion of intercourse; 13 per cent had had at least one homosexual contact that resulted in orgasm; and 3.6 per cent had had at least one sexual contact with a lower animal.

These figures were bound to produce an uproar. Yet in many respects, these revelations contained few surprises, and these were of degree rather than kind. People familiar with the male volume understood there was a gap between the prescribed and the actual sexual behaviour of men. There was no reason not to expect similar revelations for women.

Kinsey found much to commend in extramarital sex. After noting that it was more common and more often tolerated in men than in women, he discussed the social reasons why women had affairs. Many took lovers to relieve sexual friends. Some did so to retaliate against a spouse who had cheated, still others to assert personal independence, either from



Many Americans did not want to hear what Kinsey had to say, fearing he would knock women off their pedestals; others were afraid he would not

Although he acknowledged that adultery often caused friction and not infrequently led to divorce. Kinsey made it clear that such disturbances were far from inevitable. In some cases the "sexual adjustments with the spouse had improved as a result of the female's extramarital experience". But adultery was not for those easily intimidated by social mores. Rather, it could be handled successfully only by those capable of overriding social mores with willpower. people who sounded suspiciously like Kinsey and his inner circle.

Yet for all its limitations, Sexual Behaviour in the Human Female remains a provocative and personal work. It reveals the scientific philosophy and methodology, the private passions, values above all, the inner conflicts of its author. ● Alfred C Kinsey: A Public/Private Life, by James H. Jones, is published on November 12 CLARA Bracken McMillen was the ideal mate for Kin-KINSEY'S IDEAL MATE

sey. While he was eager to begin a female relationship. it had to be with a woman who was secure and unafraid to make the first move; a woman who could Nor is it difficult to underlook beyond the awkwardness to see his merit. Clara fitted the bill. Not only was

she friendly, confident and self-possessed; she was strongly attracted to Kinsey. ery indication of knowing Photographs show a short-waisted, slightly plump, round-faced young woman. Her eyes were wore her hair in a Dutch bob. Had she worked on her appearance, Clara might virgins have turned some heads.

But she seemed oblivious to her looks. If anything, Clara looked downright boyish. usual in this re-Her style of dressing was gard. Yet, in

clothes frumpish. Clara's looks and taste in clothes may have enhanced her appeal to Kinsey. He probably preferred a woman who did little to accentuate her femininity. Still, Kinsey must have been warmed by Clara's character. She was poised and self-confident, who become engaged often

highly competitive and, most important, calm and unflappable, a woman of

stand what Clara saw in Kinsey. Handsome and athletic looking, he was obvi-ously brilliant and he gave ev-ery indication

when they started dating. Nor were they un-

morality had an ally. His restraint probably had as much to do with sexual conflicts as with moral rectitude. His behaviour fits the pattern of many homosexual males forming a heterosextriend that the problem in-

fail to make any efforts at seduction. This is especially

true of men with little experi tend to feel anxious about their ability to perform. While Kinsey's feelings toward Clara may not have been this trou-

bled, it seems doubtful whether he made serious tense moral inhibitions and

al identity, Kinprobably many homosexuals feel

about having intercourse with their fiances. In the event, their marriage was not consummated on their honeymoon, nor for several months thereafter. Kinsey later confided to a

volved both inexperience

and physiology. "Kinsey wasn't altogether clear how to go about this," explained a friend, "and secondly, Clara was quite apprehensive."

unique, Kinsey and Clara's critics had been charging all along: society was not preparing young people for marriage. In theory, husbands were supposed to teach wives, but in practice men often did not know enough to fulfil their duty.

coped with their honeymoon they would have discussed the problem candidly is unlikely. Still, they did not allow their sexual problems to end their marriage; and the fact that they stayed together relieved a great deal of pressure. It was a sign that each valued the relationship. To remain together marriage, Kinsey and Clara had to agree to compromise on what most couples considered fundamental. That kind of resilience and flexibility was to become a sa-

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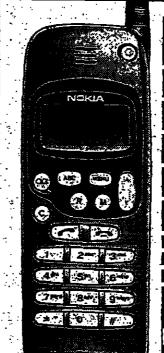
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^{Children} on!

Toddlers on track for success

hey are little more than babies but 2½-year-old Ami and three-year-old Mary are on trial. As they go through their unselfconscious paces before the staff and head of Palmers Green High School, every smile, every word, every gesture of co-operation — or their absence will be interpreted and analysed.

Those tots who pass the appraisal will be on the fast track to academic success. At three years old, they will embark on a curricuhum that will lead to each girl gaining an average of ten GCSEs.

By four, they will be in posses-sion of the straw boater and bright green blazer that is the trademark uniform of the London school where the ethos is one of high motivation, lady-like manners, and, says the head, Sian Grant,

"keeping cynicism at bay".
With a high ratio of applicants to places (three to one at nursery age, seven to one for entry at 11), the prospect for many is of rejection at a tender age. The selection process, normally carried out behind closed doors, has been filmed for BBC2's Modern Times series.

If the toddlers are blithely un-aware of the importance of their reaction to the smiling lady who leans across her desk and inquires of them: "How many legs does an octopus have?", their parents realise that they, too, are under scrutiny.

There is a heart-stopping moment when Ami, perched on the knee of her father, newsagent and confectioner Mukul Patel, is asked: "Have you been to a zoo?" As Mr Patel obligingly shakes his head, you can't help feeling that Ami has been condemned because of the parental omission in not introduc-

ing her to captive beasts. Ami was not offered a place. Mr Patel, an honours graduate of an Indian university whose family lives above their shop in Enfield, is still bewildered. His older daughter Karishma, now seven, was also

They are bright girls who need direction," he says. "I am very busy, working 14 hours a day, seven days a week in my shop. My wife comes downstairs to help me, so we have little time to spare.

"At one point, the head teacher stopped me explaining to Ami what In pursuit of academic success, private schools are testing two-year-olds. Moira Petty reports

Oh, no. I've done the wrong thing." I felt shocked."

Jim and Avril Willard, the parents of Mary, had a happier experience and their daughter has been at the school since September. "Mary was asked if she had been on a horse and to the zoo, and she was able to say she had," says Mrs Willard, a biochemist who has taken five years out to be with her

She needs a lot of activity to dissipate her energy. We have a season ticket to the zoo. We go to

many museums including the science ones, because she is very mechanically mind-ed. She does gym. ballet, drama, and swimming. We are always out and about, and I see that as my job for

Mrs Grant, headmistress for nine years of the independent girls' school where fees rise to £1,650 a term, says she is looking for par-

ents "who want the best and who will support us. Have they stimulated the child, or just put her in front of a video and told her to be quiet? Can the parents control the kid's behaviour on a day when they're out to impress? All this is a

reflection of values in the home." Mrs Grant says she is obliged to select those girls who will best be able to cope with the academic tenor of the school, which educates up to the age of 16. But how accurate is her assessment of a twoyear-old? In the documentary, she and another member of staff are discussing the youngest applicants. Judgments like "she was a bit of a pudding, I couldn't see that spark", appear intuitive.

Mrs Grant concedes that her system is conducted "in quite an unscientific way". She is seeking explain to her,' she said. I thought, children "with those bright eyes, let it go on for a bit to see what the

who want to learn, who are interested". They might range from those who are "very verbal" 10 another who is thoughtful and wistful, but who watches and

absorbs it all". She believes she "generally picks the right child but agrees that children do not all mature at the same rate. It seems to be as much a matter of luck as parenting skills if a child's abilities and demeanour

coincide with the main intake at ages three and four. Some children are ahead on the

physical side, but behind in their ability to concentrate and absorb," she confirms, "We do not run a play school. Even the voumeest have a timetabled morning which is academically based. come into the prep department at they are readv."

The advent of league tables has caused what some see as a vicious circle. Testing has therefore become

that more schools will include testing of two-year-olds. The test begins with a stint with the head of the nursery school. She is looking for the signs that a girl is ready to begin reading and writing with good co-ordination and the ability to follow instructions. The

more rigorous. Mrs Grant believes

toddlers are asked to pick out colours, to count, to join the dots. Then they are ushered into the head's office, parents in tow. They are encouraged to talk about them-selves so that vocabulary and experience may be gauged. They're no war a sked to go through hoops, just to reveal what

they're capable of," she says. She notes the relationship between child and parent and the keenness of discipline. "If the child is banging the drawer of my desk, l

parents will do. If they don't intervene, I will talk to them about what we expect of them. Do they want the type of disciplined environment we offer here or are they more the free expression type?

Sushma Shah, the mother of pupil Anjali, confesses to feeling nervous during her daughter's test last May. Mrs Shah, who qualified as a dentist in Africa, had at the time just sat examinations to register in Britain.

So I was feeling really stressed and my brain was analysing all that Anjali was doing. I explained that she didn't like colouring very much, but loved ballet and singing. They asked her to sing. I appreciated that they were looking at a different aspect of her. We're great believers in discipline so that paid off. She was willing to sit on Mrs Grant's lap and chattered away about going on the plane to India."

Mr Patel says of the testing

system: "I've never seen anything like it. What do they expect from a 212-year-old? If they take only the best children, they're bound to turn out the best." Mrs Grant claims that the system

is selective but not elitist. People are too quick to put their own expectations on to their children." She says it is not biased in favour of middle-class parents, but against those who "don't always handle their children sensibly. Candidates for entrance at II are scrutinised as searchingly as the

orty-seven per cent of the girls are from ethnic minorities. "Some parents have two or three jobs and make sacrifices to send their children here. One market-stallholder says proudly: 'Look what my daughter has become. We respect all parents equally."

Meanwhile, Ami's father is

scrambling to find the right school. She is in a state school, but, with her sister, has been offered a place at a private school, "State schools are too slow," he says. He still thinks Ami's rejection was unfair. They didn't tell us where Ami fell down, If I have a third child, I'll have them holding a pencil at 18 months," he jokes. "No, of course I wouldn't force a child. They should

have time to play. You can't bring

those years back."



Soraya, 3, takes a test where she is asked to pick out colours, to join the dots and to count

Of Englishness and innocence + Short long on pragmatism + Animated argument

A national heroine she ain't

JUST imagine that it was the other way around for a moment. What if a foreign au pair working over here were found guilty of killing her baby charge, an infant

Somehow it's difficult to believe that the tabloid press would be quite so insistent on pushing the nanny-of-all-our-hearts line. Who, then, would

be crying foul at a jury's decision to convict? That isn't to miss the point. For, her family and friends (who have no obligation to be objective in such matters) apart, the general assumption seems to be that Louise Woodward's being British is guarantee enough of her innocence. To suggest otherwise or moot that a jury that has

heard many days' worth of evidence might be in a better

position to judge the matter



than those of us fed gobbets of information prepared for do-

be downright unpatriotic.
I am not saying she's guilty. It seems to me, too, that there is insufficient evidence to make such an assumption. but if she really is innocent, it won't be because she's British. Nor does it follow that justice is done only when it's British justice. The banner headlines on Saturday's Mirror -"jailed by the system that freed OJ" — may be wonder-

fully emotive, and not entirely

that there are any more miscarriages of justice in US than

in British courts

There have been a mount ing number of grumbling criticisms of the Prime Minister's refusal to get involved. Too right he won't. It would be the most terrible impertinence. Of course, we are obliged to presume people innocent - but only until they are found guilty. The one undeniable offence to justice seemed to me the "noose or loose" ruling, but that was

chosen by Miss Woodward's own lawyers. That itself had to make a mockery of the jury's decision, because whether she killed Matthew Eappen or not, the one thing we can be sure of is that it wasn't a premeditated crime, so couldn't have been, in legal terms, murder. But she, or those defending her, took that gamble. They lost. Perhaps

they'll win at appeal; at time of writing, it is undecided. It is truly dreadful that a 19year-old girl who, whatever she did do, never intended to kill anyone should be sent to jail for 15 years. I feel for her family. But a national heroine she ain't, or shouldn't be. For all that, I suspect that next there will be a public state-ment on her behalf by the Spice Girls. Then Innocent

Children only want the facts

TM NOT sure why it's on my bookshelves rather than his, but for some reason I am the custodian of the book which was my brother's favourite when he was a child. It's a slim thing titled, quite simply, The Boys Book of Facts. And that's what it is: page after page of all the facts that a boy was expected to have at his inkstained

fingertips in the early Sixties. More: they are the facts that every boy wanted to have to hand, the facts which not only gave him a sense of the world in which he lived (in those days, a world in which boys were the sole guardians of knowledge, but also were the standard currency of the playground. It was an age when some sort of status still accrued to the boy who knew the most world capitals

or who could name Jupiter's moons. No longer. These facts have no currency and narrative is all. Or, at least, not if you are in charge of the schedules for children's television where, according to

the Broadcasting Standards Commission. factual programming has fallen to just 2 per cent of all children's viewing, including satellite and cable, and more than a third of that output comprises simpleminded animations of the Scooby-Doo and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

The excuse for running bad adult television is that it's what the public wants: children's schedulers have no such excuse because children, generally speaking, have to take what they're given.

And the only reason they're given badly drawn, semi-animated American cartoons in which the plot is repeated episode after episode (has there ever been an episode of Scooby-Doo in which the masks weren't pulled from the heads of the take ghosts in the last scene?) is because they are incredibly cheap to buy in. What other possible justification could there be for screening these trashy stories?

The tragedy is that the schedulers have convinced themselves that cartoons really are exclusively what children want. If they looked a little further when they went on their buying sprees in America they'd find that American schedulers have started to understand that children still have a fascination with facts — which is why Nickelodeon, the main children's cable and satellite channel and the producer of some of the more intelligent animations, has also started producing intelligent and entertaining children's shows full of boastable facts and figures.

They may be facts with American accents, but given the choice between them and the American accented Scooby-Doo, I know which I'd take.

And children, who don't make the distinction between education and entertainment in the lazy way we do, would fail even to see why they have to make the

In Short, the **Government's** great asset

BEFORE the election, when the only thing Tony Blair was afraid of was being compla-cent, Clare Short was considered a liability. Honest to a fault and therefore politically dangerous - that was the general assumption. It's not a silly one to make: those who speak their minds do not generally make successful

But Short is turning out to be a fabulous exception to this rule. Far from being a liability, she is turning out to be one of the Government's greatest assets. When I've heard her recently, on the subject of disaster relief in Montserrat and, at the weekend, discussing foreign aid and Third World child labour, her qualities shone out. She won't be tripped up and she won't be embarrassed. Unlike many of us on the left, she is not anxious to sound nice-nicenice. Being a good person, she good. This in itself is a relief.

But most of all, she is eminently sensible: she knows the difference between what can be done and what ideally should be done, and concentrates on the former without losing sight of the latter. In Short, we have that rare thing. a radical pragmatist. I can't help wishing she were in charge of everything or, failing that, education. The children need her, schools need her. we need her. I don't wish to do down Mr Blunkett, but he could usefully be given that

other albatross, health. Blair always promised he would be more radical than anyone thought. The coming reshuffle, then, is his chance to prove and justify it in one.

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My vision of an open Europe

George Soros prescribes a

British cure for the EU

s an idea, European unity used to appeal to the hearts and minds of Europeans. But the reality is far less inspiring. What is the cause of this malaise? Can the European vision of the past 50

Europe's failures are often blamed on the fact that the union is an association of states, all tending to put their own interests ahead of the common weal. This is certainly true. But there is also a deeper, less obvious cause of Europe's troubles.

The EU is a rules-based overnment. This may sound like the rule of law, implying transparency and impartiality. In fact, the EU's rulemaking process is anything but transparent. Decisions of the Council of Ministers are just like treaties: difficult_to reach and difficult to alter. The rules that emerge are often too detailed, too rigid, and inappropriate to changing circum-

But the real problem lies in the idea that social, economic and political reality can be mastered by general norms. Life is too complex and changeable to be governed by fixed rules. The Maastricht treaty, for example, detailed the conditions to be met and timetable to be followed in introducing a single currency. Few foresaw then that Europe would suffer a prolonged period of high unemployment. Reducing government spend-ing, as Maastricht demanded, is not the right policy in a recession. Admittedly. Europe's economies need to make emphasising reduced budget

the recession. The flaws of Maastricht epitomise the belief that all problems can be managed if you enact enough rules. To have an independent central mon monetary policy and then have a stable pact that imposes rigid rules on fiscal policy deprives governments of the tools for macroeconomic management. What worries me most is that I don't see mechanisms for correcting

deficits probably prolonged

What unblinking commitment to governance by rules ignores is that our understanding is inherently imperfect: the perfect design for society is beyond our reach. We cannot devise a system to anticipate every contingency. We must content ourselves with the next best thing: a form of social organisation which falls short of perfection but is open to change and improvement. That is the idea of open society, and I would like to propose it as a new organising principle for the

The bureaucratic view of the EU, embodied in the Maastricht treaty, is a Cartesian. rationalist construct. It shares the problems of Descartes's faith in the supremacy of reason. For 50 years. Brussels bureaucrats moved with precise, logical steps, limiting their goals, and setting firm timetables. When one goal was reached it became obvious that another step was needed. Public support was then mobilised. Step by step, the union progressed to become

perhaps the greatest feat of social engineering in history. The limits of this construction were reached with the Maastricht treaty. The rigidity inherent in the euro means

that the common currency will have to be followed by a common fiscal policy, includ-ing a harmonisation of taxes on the earnings of capital. But tremely unpopular. A common currency may end up destroying the European Union because its deficiencies cannot be corrected simply by

It is time to change course. Since Descartes's time, we have had ample opportunity to discover that reason has its limitations. When I speak of Europe as an open society, I am thinking about coming to terms with our fallibility. Injecting a dose of British empiricism into Europe's Cartesian project could do the Continent a lot of good.

The idea of open society. with its commitment to freedom and social justice, can perhaps also give Europe a new sense of mission. During the Cold War, the presence of a common totalitarian enemy seemed to provide Europe with its moral purpose. But now that the communist menace has disappeared, the unity of the West is also disintegrating. The task before us is to reenergise Europe through an idea that inspires.

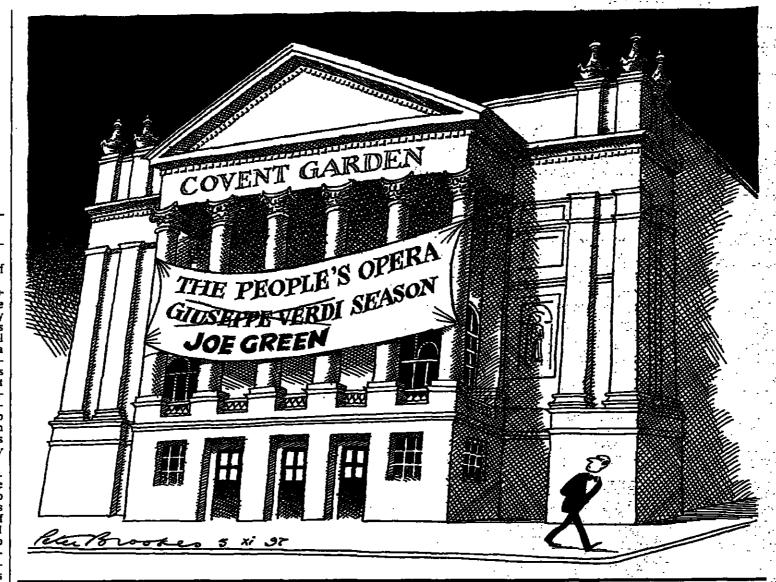
What would the EU look like as an open society? There would be a common market, common currency, and common fiscal policy, but also a government accountable to all its people. The federal European government can be ac-ceptable only if it is combined with the notion of subsidiarity. necessary to accommodate the rich cultural and national heritage of the continent.

Rights and independent judiciary, Europe would be even more likely to succeed than the United States as a prototype of open society. Its diverse nationalities, cultures and traditions are not too far removed from each other to be compatible. There is a reasonable balance between the states that compromise it, although after reunification Germany has become a little

too strong for comfort. Establishing a common vision above petty interests is of particular importance in European defence. Security is no longer tied to the interests of individual countries, as the Bosnian conflict demonstrates. The war there did not impinge on the national interests of any one country. Nevertheless, the passivity of the rest of Europe may have inflicted more damage to the common interest than any other event in recent history. It was griev-ously mishandled because it was not treated as an open-

society issue. It is for the people of Europe to decide exactly what kind of Europe they want. The EU as it is fails to meet their needs and aspirations. But what is imperfect can be improved This is what open society is all

The author is chairman of the Open Society Institute.



It's a real bullet, Tosca

othing is sacred. The soft centre has not held and the West End. The Government intends that the Royal Opera and English National Opera should cohabit. They have blown too much money for too long to merit separate homes. The game is up. The fat lady has sung her last. The Royal Opera at Covent

Garden and the ENO at the Coliseum have been the Mutt and Jeff of British opera. They have been Marshall and Sneigrove, Cross & Black-well, Little and Large for as long as we can remember. The one has been for the toffs, the other for plebs. Covent Garden sings foreign, the Coliseum English. Covent Garden is champagne and smoked salmon, the Coliseum cheap wine and sweaty dive-bars. We emerge from Covent rden smugly uplifted, brushing gilt dust from our shoulder. The Coliseum hurls us out into St Martin's Lane like so much

broiled offal. Both are chantries of pre-Reformation public spending. I have enjoyed them too much not to shed a tear at their dissolution. Entertainers fool themselves when they think that the public goes to a theatre just to see their show. It also goes to experience a particular building. The rich go to Covent Garden to be seen at Covent Garden, to throng the Crush Bar, to enjoy the spirit of the place.

That is why audiences have collapsed now that the Royal Opera is using other London venues during rebuilding. The places are wrong. Does anyone think Glyndebourne would survive for an unsubsidised minute if relocated where picnics were impossible? Half the pleasure of the Coliseum was to sit under its vast cream and maroon auditorium, beneath prancing horses and naked breasts, while tier upon tier swaved to Bellini and Offenbach. Half the point was to be "not Covent Garden". Both London opera companies are

insolvent. Each has debts it cannot hope to pay back. The ENO is desperate, sitting on a £5 million deficit and losing money despite a £12 million subsidy. The Royal Opera is not just desperate, it is plunging into an abyss. It will lose E3 million this year and faces an accumulated deficit of £15 million on entering its new building in 1999. Years of mismanagement have come to this. London opera has hit a wall of pain. Opera directors have long regardChris Smith's plans for London opera can only mean the death of ENO

ed such crises as completely normal. The procedure is to don sackcloth and ashes and demand money with menaces from the Arts Council, the Arts Minister and the Treasury. The great and good are invited to the Grand Tier. There is murmuring about centres of excellence, trickle down and outreach. The jailer's knife raises over Florestan's neck. Suddenly the trumpet of salvation is heard offstage, the minister arrives and Fidelio's budget lives to sing another day. The metronome ticks off another

Yesterday something went badly wrong. Chris

Secretary, has taken the opportunity of Covent Garden's temporary closure to break the spell. Logic says that if two opera houses are both bankrupt. they had better become one. By shar-

Ballet in the attic, a spare company can go touring the provinces. If the number hearing subsidised opera in London is to be halved, at least opera can be taken to people outside London. The Coliseum can be sold. The ENO must in future tell its middle-brow audience to visit its productions "at Covent Garden". Those seeking a cheese sandwich will find one in the basement of the Savoy.

Assuming the proposal goes ahead, the outcome is clear. The English National Opera company is being told to drink hemlock. Its team may survive awhile at the new Covent Garden, struggling to put together a "distinctive" English-speaking repertoire and taking it on tour. But surtitles have rendered this distinction obsolete. Audiences will going "to Covent Garden", to see particular operas, singers and productions. There is no sense in giving one label to some productions. another to others. To pay for separate opera overheads in one building, not to mention a separate orchestra and chorus, would be indefensible. Cohabitation is a sop. The toffs

The extravagance of the London

opera companies is legendary, well-illustrated in the BBC documentary. The House. Money simply pours out of the door in mysterious payments, lavish designs and stupefying expenses. We have no idea how much grand opera would cost in Central London if subjected to normal project management. We do not know what we would get, or how much would be lost artistically, if either the Coliseum or Covent Garden tried operating at lower levels of unit cost. No one has dared test the question.

The same question was asked of Fleet Street newspapers in the 1970s.

dom held that there was "only room" for three or four titles in London in future. Costs were fixed by union restrictive practices. The unions were happy to see the number of

titles shrink, pro-

vided only that the ing one building, with the Royal incomes of their surviving members were maintained. Unions are never concerned with numbers employed. only with average incomes of those in work, a syndrome that wiped out London's docks. It took exceptionally tough action by newspaper propri-etors in the mid-1980s to break this syndrome. As a result the number of titles stopped falling. Consumer choice was preserved, profits rose and cover prices fell.

Opera today is like Fleet Street yesterday. The entertainment business is notorious for restrictive practices, none more so than subsidised music. The absence of Covent Garden from the television, video or recording business, or from other forms of outreach, is shocking, given the size of its public subsidy. The unions forbid any reproduction of performances, except at prohibitive cost. Management and the Arts Council have acquiesced in this. Nobody knows how much money must have been lost as a result.

Instead of a competitive duopoly, we are to have a comfortable monopoly. Two companies that might have deserved a sentence of penal servitude have had a more drastic sentence passed on them. One is to be

Government has lost patience. London opera is to be taken into care. It is to be nationalised. The Arts Council, always a mere pawn in Covent Garden's fist, has been swept aside. Whitehall will now expect to fund and direct the new Covent Garden building.

This is good news for the Royal Opera. Institutions which government funds get away with financial murder, be they prisons, hospitals, navies or royal palaces. Covent Garden may be able to seize part of the ENO grant to save it from bankruptcy — before the Treasury gets wise to the fact that its grant to London opera should now be halved. The Royal Opera should receive not a penny until that company gets its unions in order and ends restrictive practices on broadcasting. The ENO orchestra and chorus must go and Covent Garden's own musicians and singers put on personal contracts.

his is seriously radical. The Government has tasted blood. The message to other rogue elephants in London's arts jungle is awesome. The Royal Shakespeare and Royal National theatres are also competing with each other (and the private sector) at the taxpayer's expense. The logic of the Coliseum decision is that the RSC should sell the Barbican and merge with the RNT on the South Bank. Again. Mr Smith is subsidising five symphony orchestras in London (plus the two operas), all competing for a dwindling market of audiences There must be scope for cohabitation here. The South Bank board and its Festival Hall draw a bigger subsidy than the Coliseum, yet compete with the Albert Hall, the Wigmore Hall and the Barbican Hall. This looks

like madness. These are questions decent people have not been expected to ask. Decent people put their shoulder to the wheel and lobby like hell. They keep their heads down when the muck starts to fly, cut a deal with Whitehall behind the woodshed and sneak away with

their perks and gongs.

That script has been ripped apart. London's cultural institutions, used to years of effortless equilibrium, have gone unstable. Grants are being cut. Boards are in turmoil. Budgets are flying everywhere. And already the Treasury Scarpias are avenged. It was a real bullet, Tosca. The Coliseum is dead.

Alan Coren



And lo, quick as a flash, there came miracles on the road

To until last Monday morning, I had little in common with St Paul. The little was that I had also travelled the road to Damascus, but as nothing untoward happened in the way of flashing ights, visions, or miracles, you will I'm sure agree that things in common do not come much littler. But last Monday morning, they suddenly came much bigger. They came much bigger on the road to Cricklewood, where something untoward did happen in the way of flashing lights, visions and miracles.

Literally untoward, at that: which is to say that the flashing light appeared, in my rear-view mirror, a nano-second after I had driven past it in an untoward direction. It had not been a flashing light when I had ap-proached it in a toward direction, it had been a grey box on a stick; it became a flashing light only after I had passed it, because I had passed it too quickly, and it wanted a snapshot of my departing number plate. This, of course, instantly became the first vision, as the nimber slowly materialised in Old Bill's developing fluid, only to be nudged aside by the second vision, a ratty letter inviting me either to submit my licence for defacement on a charge of belting down the A41 like a madman, or, in the event of my actually being a madman, to try to weasel my way out of it in court with a brilliantly argued defence packing the juridical wallop of a load of old cod, which would bring the beak tumbling from his beach and rolling around helplessly on the courtroom parquet until such time as he managed to struggle to his feet, wipe his eyes, and announce that he was throwing

the key away.

That being the third vision. There was, however, a fourth as how could there not be, given that most of the rural weekend from which I was now speeding home had been given over to justice needed not only to be done but to be televised to be done? I shan't elaborate, all your own weekends will have been spent jawing the selfsame issue to tatters. I wish merely to offer my vision of that inevitable day when, thanks to the exponential proliferation of TV channels and the dearth of anything to put on them, dozens will offer the daily doings of courts throughout the queendom. Will this affect justice? Who can say, but look, there is an old wag in the dock accused of speeding, he has retained Cherie Booth, George Carman and John Thaw, who, after six weeks, have triumphantly argued the selection of a jury of 12 old wags who own fast cars; and see, the queue of expert witnesses stretches around the block, each clutching a wad of money in one fist and, in the other, testimony written by a panel of Oscared scriptwriters which they will soon deliver to piped music composed for the occasion by Harrison Birtwistle. Might, then, the old wag get

off with only a wigging? Almost certainly (and if so, he will subsequently appeal successfully against the wigging on the grounds that it upset one of his grandchildren), but if the jury does accidentally find him guilty, the verdict is bound to be set aside following Dale Winton's tearful request to camera that viewers now ring one of two Freefone numbers, bearing in mind, as they dial, that the old wag not only has a hacking cough but also gives huge sums to Save the Children.

ow, there might have been even more to this last vision had it not suddenly been interrupted, a couple of miles from home, by the miracle. Another flashing light had appeared in my mirror, blue this time. I pulled over. thinking: blimey, they're quick. they have found a place that does ten-minute processing, so I got out of the car and was preparing to scan the moist snapshot, fakely aghast, when the policeman who had got out of his said: "You realise you're committing an offence, sir?"

The present tense. Strange: 1 had, of course, been driving impeccably since the initial flash. I shook my head. He beckoned me to the rear of my car, and pointed. I stared. I may have recled. Because, the night before, I, along with all the other weekend guests, had parked in

the muddy, rutted field outside our host's farmbouse "It is illegal," he said, "to drive with an illegible registration I took a cloth from the boot,

and wiped it clean. Thank you." I said. Thank you, God.

Grave concern

THE cemetery where Dodi Fayed's body was interred is being investigated by the local council amid suggestions of neglect by its owner. Brookwood cemetery in Surrey, the largest in Britain, gained international attention when the friend of Diana, Princess of Wales, was buried there within 24 hours of his death in Paris. But his father. Mohamed Al Faved, caused surprise by moving the body to his nearby Oxted estate. The cemetery's owner. Ramadan Guney, is controversial.

The widow of Sir Thomas Beecham, the conductor, exhumed her husband's body in 1991 after seeing the shoddy state of his grave. The council responded by forcing Guney to "take remedial action".

Some locals remain unhappy. "I have seen him clear large areas

and re-sell the plots to different people," says Dorothy Richards. who was brought up by the cemetery ther father worked on the 450-acre site and has lived in a house there since. "Dodi's plot was in one of these newly-deared areas." Al Fayed selected Dodi's plot - a privilege for which Mr Guney charges extra. Mrs Richards continues: "Everything is in a terrible state. The grave of an old cemetery manager, George Lambert, who only died a few years ago, lies broken under an old

fireplace and television set." Such allegations are being taken seriously by Surrey County Council. "There has been a lot of concern order feed from London's trendy

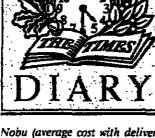


Moving on: Dodi and Beecham

from both the religious authorities and the police," says Steve Lawrenson, from the planning office. "We are investigating." I telephoned Guney to float these points past him but he was "on

business" in Cyprus. His asso-

ciates would not be drawn. ■ LOCAL takeaways in Herts have failed to impress the American actors, Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman, while on location: they

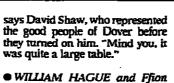


Nobu (average cost with delivery: 5300). "Their driver comes to collect or we send it in a taxi." says a kitchen voice. "They're particu-larly fond of sahimi."

Vintage whine

IT IS the ultimate club for losers. After the Tories implosion last May, the Exiles was formed for casualties to dine, and occasionally whine. Recently the club's Phillip Oppenheim (formerly a dashing MP) organised a wake at the Savile Club. One of the cheeriest diners was Sir Jeremy Hanley, handing out business cards. There's life outside politics," chirped the former party chairman. There may be one or two who could do with some work, but most of them could not be busier."

"We all got round one table,"



 WILLIAM HAGUE and Ffion Jenkins should grow accustomed to married life while honeymooning next month in a £380-anight hotel suite in India. The room boasts its own "love swing".

Sold at last

TALES of the Princess of Wales washing-up in his kitchen have



"I see the Tories have changed their name"

done little to raise the value of The Shieling, the Devonshire cottage of James Hewitt. After languishing on the market for two years it has been flogged for rather less than its asking price. The cottage - a twee little thing

with oak beams and thatched roof - was offered at £170,000 but has now gone for around £155,000. "It's a sensible price. The Princess's visits had no impact on the value," says the estate agent. The windfall will come in handy to Hewitt, who has upgraded to a nearby mansion on the proceeds of Anna Pasternak's book. Princess in Love. His new pad could do with an MoT.

BRIAN IDDON, MP, will mark the day by bringing gunpowder into Parliament — the first time since Guy Fawkes. A former science lecturer, he wants to publicise the importance of chemistry. Does the Serjeant at Arms know?

Late news

GROCERS, Princess Margaret has learnt rather late in life, like their supper on time. Saturday. found Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover celebrating his 70th birthday with 350 close chums at the National Gallery. They had gathered around eight for a fourcourse feast in the Sainsbury



Wing, galleries for which their host, with customary generosity, shelled out £30 million.

There was only one thing missing: the guest of honour, Princess Margaret, without whom dinner could not be served. Half past eight struck nine o'clock passed, and still she did not show. Eventually, at quarter past nine, she turned un.
"We were starving," says an impa-tient diner. "The delay could have wreaked havoc with the sorbet."

JASPER GERARD



THE GOOD EMUSCEPTICS

Which side really wants the best for Europe?

The Government has a new mission: to rid the country of Euroscepticism. The Labour/Liberal Democrat cabinet committee yesterday discussed how this battle was to be fought. By the evening, Gordon Brown had launched the first missile, in the Speciator/Allied Dunbar lecture. After a thoughtful and acute analysis of the historical roots of Britishness, the Chancellor went on to darnn the notion that being pro-British should be equated with being anti-Europe.

¹²]6:

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Mr Brown is right to draw attention to Britain's outward-looking traditions. Though an island, this country has never been insular. Rather, its surrounding seas have provoked a national urge to explore, to trade and even, in the past, to conquer. Britain's foreign policy has always been one of engagement rather than isolationism, and of ensuring a balance of power in Europe.

The Chancellor's analysis of the post-Cold War era is also instructive. When the Soviet Union was Communist, Britain's instincts were closer to those of America than to those of anti-Nato France or pacifist West Germany. But these days there is no tension between being Atlanticist and pro-European. Indeed, Britain's influence with Washington is enhanced by its influence in Europe and vice versa.

Where Mr Brown and his Labour and Lib Dem friends are on weaker ground is in equating Euroscepticism with anti-Europeanism. There is, and will always be, a vociferous but small section of the population and political classes that wants nothing to do with Europe. These people voted "no" in the 1975 referendum and would vote "no" again given the chance. They are, on the whole, suspicious of foreigners and happy to be called "little Englanders".

But there is another, more numerous, group of people who believe that Britain's future lies in Europe, but are unhappy with the way in which the European Union has developed. These people, many of whom are younger and more "modern" than Mr Brown, are sceptical not of Europe per se, but of a particular design for Europe which seems old-fashioned, rigid, cumbersome and antithetical to the interests not just of Britain but of continental countries too.

This Eurosceptic strand is not xenophobic but internationalist. It wants Europe to be able to compete with the markets of the Far East, not to retreat into an inward-looking and declining, possibly protectionist, club. This is a more up-to-date vision than the Mitterrand/Kohl one of heavy-handed integration and regulation. It sees Europe's future as being based on flexibility not rigidity. The EU needs to be light on its feet with not one interest rate and exchange rate for all but the ability to be responsive to individual countries' economic circumstances so as to maximise growth and prosperity.

Moreover, these modern Eurosceptics fear that the very danger that political and economic integration was designed to prevent - that of the rise of nationalism - may instead be enhanced by EMU. If high levels of unemployment are caused in the poorer countries by a one-size-fits-all interest rate, and if national politicians find themselves impotent to remedy it, far-right antidemocratic parties will reap the rewards. If taxpayers in richer countries are then expected forever to pay huge subsidies to

poorer ones, xenophobia will take hold. These Eurosceptics are often lumped together with anti-Europeans. Crude, xenophobic, old-fashioned slogans based on the presence of the Queen's head on the banknote obscure the far more cogent and intellectually respectable arguments of modern Euroscepticism. These are views to which Mr Brown and his colleagues should listen with respect, not begin a mission to destroy.

EUROPE'S HIGHWAYMEN

Blair should demand guards for convoys through France

France's lorry drivers have a right to withdraw their labour; that is a matter between them and their employers, with whom they have some genuine grievances to pursue. They can have no right deliberately to deprive other people of work and ruin farmers and industries throughout Europe. Their blockade of France is not strike action. but a war of economic sabotage. It is totally illegal, recklessly irresponsible and inflicts on its trading partners.

It is also supported by a majority of their compatriots. There is a curious symbiosis between French voters and their routiers which paralyses French governments almost as effectively as the drivers are once again choking Europe's arteries. A year ago, the centre-right Juppé Government tried to ignore Operation Escargot, only to intervene in the end with promises of public money to help finance a settlement. The Socialist Opposition lined the barricades then, jeering and cheering. Those who ring the bells for illegality are justly condemned one day to wring their hands; but faced with a repeat performance, that is about all that the Socialists, now in government, are doing.

Like M Juppé before him, the French Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, claims that the Government is "neutral". Since this is a private-sector dispute, such a hands-off approach would be both technically correct and, for French Socialists, surprisingly "new Labour". But the true picture is different. Ministers are stuck in this dispute up to the hilt. What M Jospin really means is that his Government dares not tackle what incluctibly does fall within the domain of the State; that is the responsibility to enforce the law, including the dismantling of roadblocks, so that others can go about their lawful

This is the point at which France's obligations transcend its frontiers. Because the country straddles the European Union's trade routes, it has a clear obligation under the EU's single market not to obstruct the free movement of goods and people. The French Government implicitly recognised that last year, when it promised to pay compensation to foreign lorry drivers who found themselves stranded — although not to foreign farmers and industries which had suffered grave damage to their businesses. Most of that money has never been paid.

The French Transport Ministry claims not be policed. It adds, tellingly, that such action would "upset the strikers". There may be genuine difficulties in ordering the police to act, because many of them belong to the same Force Ouvrière union as the lorry drivers. But there is nothing to prevent the French military running guarded convoys through France. That would not solve France's domestic problem; but it would at least show good faith about meeting its obligations to its EU partners.

British, German and Spanish businesses stand to lose more than £600 million a week as a direct result of the chaos in France. Spanish farmers, who normally export 8,000 tonnes of highly perishable fruit and vegetables in the month of November, are particularly hard hit. Tomorrow, when President Chirac and M Jospin arrive in London for an Anglo-French summit, Tony Blair must demand guarded convoys as an absolute minimum short-term measure. He should also say that Britain will present a full bill for damages, and will insist that the European Commission takes France to court

for breaching the Single European Act. External pressure should not be required M Jospin knows that if this confrontation drags on, the damage to France's economic growth will upset his strategy for monetary union. The long-term solution must lie in curbing France's small but highly politicised unions. But that is something which no postwar French Government has nerved itself to do. France thinks of itself as the true heart of Europe; it badly needs bypass surgery.

CIRCLING THE SQUARE

Trafalgar Square can be a traffic-free model for other cities

The city square is at the heart of traditional urban life, a place for citizens to stroll and mingle, to idle and admire, For the tourist, London is one of the most attractive capitals in Europe. Its theatres and restaurants, museums and parks are enjoyed by millions of visitors each year. Yet the historical hub of the city. Trafalgar Square and its environs, is snarled with traffic. It has become an inhospitable, offensive place. Pedestrians huddle on narrow pavements or stand marooned on polluted islands.

Today Westminster City Council launches a three-day public consultation on ways to improve matters. Sir Norman Foster, working in partnership with a host of transport consultants, urban planners and landscape designers, has come up with two principal strategies for the area around Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and the Houses of Parliament. In a free exhibition at the Royal United Services Institute in Whitehall, the public is invited to view these plans and

make recommendations. Traffic is the biggest single challenge. Londoners instinctively deplore the congestion which pedestrian areas produce. Road closure in one place has an inevitable effect on adjacent streets. Certain measures can be taken to redress this ring roads can

discourage through-traffic from entering the city; deliveries can be limited to off-peak hours. But, if World Squares For All is to mark the beginning of a better urban environment for central London, the habits of motorists will have to change too. The Government will need to invest heavily in improved public transport.

Another challenge is to prevent newly pedestrianised areas developing into illkempt haunts of vagrants. This depends critically on the environment and its attractions. Trashy souvenir stands, aggressive beggars, amusement arcades and fastfood chains could quickly recreate the squalor of Leicester Square. High standards in street furniture should be demanded. Simplicity of design will concentrate the eye on the many Grade I listed buildings in the

area, as well as making it easier to police. London has already created successful pedestrian areas. In Covent Garden, citizens and tourists mingle in the cafés and shops of the Piazza. But Trafalgar Square will be an even greater test. If its problems can be imaginatively solved, it will serve as a model for other cities. Londoners should take the trouble to visit the exhibition and make their comments. But they would be advised to leave their cars behind.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Case for joining the single currency is 'seriously flawed'

From Sir Michael Edwardes

Sir. Michael Heseltine and his splinter group have every right to argue their case ("Old men forget", leading article, October 31), even though it is seriously flawed. Those of us who believe that it is not in Britzin's economic interests to join the single currency welcome a full debate, for this is the only way that the downside will become apparent.

Proponents of joining a single cur-rency have avoided a number of issues which might now emerge. For example, Germany, France and Italy have massive unfunded pension commitments running into billions of marks, francs, lira and euros. This liability for the future, exacerbated by an ageing population, is often ignored.

If we join EMU, we will over time inherit the European socio-industrial cost base. For every £100 of wages in Britain, our non-wage labour cost is a reasonable £18. Germany's on-cost is no less then £32, and in France and Italy it is substantially higher. Given that only 25 per cent of our world trade is with the core EU countries. how are we to compete with and in the Americas, the Far East, the Commonwealth and Britain itself?

If we hand over the levers of economic power to a Central Bank in Frankfurt, the unemployment problem will require to be solved by job mobility: how is this to be dealt with in twelve languages? How, too, will we handle the convergence issue? Britain's global trading interests create an economic cycle which is seldom convergent with continental Europe, and even if convergence is achieved at a point in time, this is like the flash of a camera: the economic cycle moves inexorably onwards. At the present time we are diverging further, as indeed we have been since we joined the Common Market in 1972: give away our control of interest rates, inflation and economic growth, and the variable becomes unemployment with all its stresses and strains.

There are no good reasons for joining the single currency and do not let Mr Heseltine's splinter group per-

suade you that "business is in favour". The pressure for joining does not come from the bulk of the business community, but from a small group of multinationals which have had their own agenda and disproportionate influence within the CBI.

Yours truly, MICHAEL EDWARDES Chloride Group, 1969-77 and 1986; British Leyland, 1977-82; ICL, 1984; Dunlop, 1984-85; Charter, 1988-96).

15 Woodfall Street, Chelsea, SW3.

From Mrs Gillian Bardinet

Sir, British preoccupation with the economic and business implications of a single currency is perfectly logi-cal, but far removed from the mood in France, where the words "act of faith" can be heard to describe the forth-

coming great leap.

Indeed, the whole concept of EMU was conceived less as an economic target per se than as an indispensable springboard to political union, as two founding fathers, Giscard d'Estaing and Helmut Schmidt, have pointed out in a jointly written article published in the International Herald Tribune (October 14).

Yours sincerely GILLIAN BARDINET (Maître de Conférences, Institute of Political Studies, Paris). 21 Rue Saint-Honoré, 78000 Versailles. November 3.

From Mr David Clarke

Sir, Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke, as the two leading ministers of the last Conservative Government, bear a large responsibility for the worst electoral defeat the Tory party has had in a hundred years. As you rightly suggest in your leading article of October 31, one would have thought then they would have had the decency to keep quiet for a while.

They were wrong on so many major issues, ranging from lack of support for Margaret Thatcher to their eagerness to join the ERM. Why should the country listen to them now? They are yesterday's men - thank goodness. Yours faithfully.

DAVID CLARKE, Woodlands, Marsham Lane, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. November 1.

From Mr Michael Ivens

Sir, The Heseltine/Clarke citing of the CBI and TUC as allies in advocating swift progress to monetary union cuts little ice with Aims of Industry. We were against both organisations when we campaigned for bringing trade unions within the law.

It is not true that all the big firms support EMU. Many don't. And the majority of small firms fear the impact of a single currency on their

The supporters of EMU are working hard to indicate its virtues - of which there are a few. The public also need to know of the dangers - of which there are many.

We should be aware of the dangers, not only to the UK but also to the European countries which rush to join.

Yours. MICHAEL IVENS (Consultant, Aims of Industry), 2 Mulgrave Road, NW10.

From Mr Michael Thompson Sir. One can derive a certain wry

amusement from the stated aim of the newly "bonded" Conservatives to defend the pound. It can only be hoped that they will

prove more effective than their recent long governance might suggest, the of crisps.

Hawthorne Hill, Whitmore, Staffordshire. November 1.

Press freedom

From the Executive Chairman of News International

Sir, May I take rare advantage of this column by adding support for your leader today about the dangers to press freedom from some aspects of the European Convention on Human

The Lord Chancellor's statement that press freedom will be in "the safe hands of British judges" is not reassuring. British judges have a history of idiosyncratic behaviour in their media decisions and many of them famously admit to being out of touch with popular culture. Yet it will be judges who must identify the public interest for all strata of society. Judges will decide what we may or may not read. listen to or view, and their decisions will be based on their own, often narrow and out of date experiences.

Privacy in this country is protected by various statutes, by the Press Complaints Commission and the Broadcasting Standards Council. This combination can and does evolve to mirror public feeling and the judges should be told that Britain does not require a common law right to privacy and that the courts must uphold freedom of expression.

LESLIE HINTON. Executive Chairman, News International plc. 1 Virginia Street, El. November 4.

Wheels under fire

From Mr Matt Wenham

Sir, Professor Emeritus Felix Weinberg (letter, November 3) is quite correct when he states that the top of a bicycle wheel must travel forward at twice the speed of the bike. However, since the tyre is horizontal at the top its radar signature will be very small.

Even accounting for reflections from the spokes at the top of the wheel and the forward travelling foot and pedal, it is highly likely that the remainder of the cycle and the rider would account for the majority of the vehicle's radar signature.

Therefore, speed measurements of bicycles made with radar guns are likely to be as accurate as for any other vehicle.

Yours faithfully, MATT WENHAM (Physics graduate). 2 Lauriston Place, Cambridge. mattw@earthling.net

Care of countryside

From Mr K. A. McDougall

Sir, Sir Chris Bonington and others (letter, October 30) continue to feel aggrieved and threatened by any extension of military training in the UK. My experience is that military train-

ing areas are havens for wildlife which quickly adapts to the crumps and bangs and prefers these to the remorseless tramp of rambiers. Are we talking about access or biodiversity?

Yours faithfully, K. A. McDOUGALL, Hill House, Bridge Street, Stiffkey, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk,

Whaling dispute

From the Conservation Director of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society

Sir. Contrary to your report of October 24, headed "Indian tribe is allowed to kill whales again", we cannot agree that the International Whaling Commission has given the Makah Indians of Washington State permission to kill grey whales.

As the Australian delegation made clear in a statement issued after the IWC meeting at which the matter was discussed, most of the delegations to the Monaco conference were opposed

The only people authorised by the IWC to kill grey whales are those whose traditional aboriginal subsistence and cultural needs have been recognised". The Makah Indians, who have not hunted whales for over

Life force

From Professor Rhys Williams Sir, The Reverend Philip White (letter,

October 29) is certainly correct that 100 per cent of us die, whether we are churchgoers or not.

However, this 100 per cent is not a death rate: it is a proportion. A rate refers to the frequency with which things happen (like a heart rate - the frequency with which a heart beats per minute). A death rate is, therefore, the fre-

quency with which deaths occur in a given population, not the proportion of people in that population who will die. The observation that the death rate of churchgoers is "significantly lower than average" is not a consequence of a lower proportion of them being mortal but of the fact that their mortal natures "put on immortality" at a lower rate than expected. In other words, that individuals in this population live, on average,

longer than would be expected. I hope this explanation is clear and that you do not consider it too stuffy and boring.

Yours sincerely. RHYS WILLIAMS (Professor of Epidemiology and Public Heath), Nuffield Institute for Health, 71-75 Clarendon Road. Leeds, West Yorkshire. November L

Common sacrifice

From Mr Stewart Rigby

Sir, You report today that the Royal British Legion could not understand why homosexual groups should wish to observe their own commemoration as they did at the Cenotaph yesterday. Apparently this was "an offence".

in that case could the Legion please explain why they have no difficulty with Jewish and other "minority groups" mounting their own, equally eparate, commemorations?

Can't they simply accept the diversity of mankind and the shared wish to honour, albeit in different ways, the common sacrifice of those who fought for their country?

Yours sincerely. STEWART RIGBY. 13 Boyne Road, SE13. November 3.

current value of the pound being approximately three and a half packets

Yours sincerely, MICHAEL THOMPSON,

for their survival, do not fall into that If the Makah Indians go ahead and kill grey whales, despite the failure of the US delegation to secure authorisation from the IWC to do so, this will be interpreted by most of the IWC mem-

70 years and are not dependent on

whale meat and other whale products

IWC ban. The US will be deemed by them to be whaling illegally, in defiance of the ban and of overwhelming public opinion.

which is not allowed under an existing

Yours faithfully, ALISON SMITH, Conservation Director, Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, Alexander House, James Street West, Bath. October 24.

Prayers and pints

From Mr Richard Starkey and Mrs Lesleyanne Bowness

Sir, In 1641 Henry Ewer gave a yearly rent charge of ten shillings (50p) on a house on the present site of The Black Horse pub. South Mirams, for the vicar to preach a Good Friday sermon (letters, October 22, November 1). On the evening of Good Friday

1936, the Reverend Hey, realising that most of his congregation were in The Black Horse, proceeded down the hill to carry out the full act of worship in This practice is still carried out, the

vicar ringing time on "service" at the bar and replacing it by a "service" of a more ecclesiastical nature. We still pay the ten shillings to the church, although time has somewhat devalued it, and computerisation has made it necessary to raise a cheque for one pound every two years.

The congregation and regulars are concerned about the 1998 service, as our vicar has moved on to pastures new and we are without a regular deric. However, we are sure that by then God will provide.

Yours faithfully. R. STARKEY, L. BOWNESS (licensees). The Black Horse, South Mimms, Hertfordshire. blackhsm@aol.com November 3.

I bank, therefore . . .

From Mrs Irene Draper

Sir. I have recently received from an insurance company a request for me to have authorised a "certificate of existence". They kindly suggest that I apply to my bank branch, or to my local post office.

Since I buy my stamps at the newsagent and have loyally stuck to my Aberdeen bank, now 500 miles away - I usually get my money from a hole in the wall - I am in a quandary.

Yours faithfully. IRENE DRAPER. Maynestay, Catbrook, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Compassion for the unborn child

From the Reverend Iver Martin Sir, Professor James Drife (letter, October 29) suggests that the Church believes those involved in abortion at first hand to be demons. He further suggests that the Church is more concerned to preach at pregnant women

and then leave them to risk death rather than help them. This is both untrue and unfair. Furthermore, the focus of his attention is placed upon the pregnant woman, but the human life in her womb is ignored. He refers to the 30 women who annually died as a result of septic abortion in the 1960s, but makes no reference to the almost 5 million children who have since died

as a result of legal abortion. Professor Drife appears to justify abortion on the basis that most of the one in four women under 25 having abortion for the first time will never seek another one. But what if a similar statistic existed with respect to those who have murdered for the first time? Would that make murder any less

Finally, Professor Drife accuses the clergy of regarding women as objects of debate. Any Church that follows the example of Christ will treat people with the same compassion that he demonstrated, and that includes women coming to terms with the guilt and trauma of abortion. But the Church also has a duty to tell the whole truth. It must cry aloud in defence of the innocent unborn and protest to both government and public, and plead with them finally to bring an end to this horror.

Yours faithfully. IVER MARTIN (Minister, Bon Accord Free Church), 77 Forest Avenue, Aberdeen. October 30.

From Monsignor Vincent Turnbull

Sir, Cardinal Basil Hume (report, October 27) is a deeply sensitive and compassionate man. To suggest otherwise

is to do him a grave injustice. Cardinals, bishops and priests do indeed know from experience that ethical issues often become less simple when one understands all the facts", to quote Professor Drife. The professor, however, misses an essential point when he . " hn viii. Il. lesus, out of con. passion. ' fused to condemn the adulterous woman, as the Pharisees sought. But crucially he did not condone her wrongdoing; his words "go and sin no more" make that

Abortion is wrong in principle because it is the destruction of an innocent human life. No amount of compassion can alter that fundamental principle. It is unacceptable to do what is wrong in order that good, no matter how great, may come of it. To think otherwise is a recipe for moral chaos and confusion, which is what

we have in the abortion scene today. Professor Drife must surely know that risk of death or of septic abortion is not the reality in the vast majority of abortion situations today. Where is his compassion for the unborn child?

Yours sincerely.
VINCENT TURNBULL (Parish priest), St Catherine's Church. Birkenhead Road. Hoylake, Wirral, Merseyside. October 30.

Language 'tsar'

From Mr Michael Heaney Sir, Mr Peter Hall (letter, October 31) asks for an appropriate English word to convey adequately the status or function of the holder of the important

office of "language isar". I believe the word he seeks is "pedant". Yours faithfully, MICHAEL HEANEY. 5 Hanborough Close, Eynsham, Witney, Oxfordshire. michael.heaney@ulib.ox.ac.uk

From Mr Sohail Rasul

Yours faithfully.

October 31.

Sir, Surely the only expression which would evoke the same sense of absolute power and authority today would be "language minister without port-

S. RASUL, 58 Westbury Road, New Malden, Surrey.

From Mr Gerald Moggridge Sir, How about "bossyboots"? Yours faithfully, GERALD MOGGRIDGE,

29 Rossdale, Sutton, Surrey. From Mrs Adele Kitrick

Sir, Mr Peter Hall is right to deplore the use of the word "tsar". As someone once said, there is no need to borrow foreign words, English will always provide the mot juste.

Yours faithfully, A. A. KITRICK, 26 Warwick Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

From Mr Geoffrey Payne

Sir, Why not have a language Pope, since infallibility is likely to come into it.

Yours faithfully. GEOFFREY PAYNE, 4 Hales Place, Dresden, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

مِكَذَا مِنَالِهِمِلَ



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

November 4: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace The Earl of Airlie KT (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of Her Majesty and presented an Ad-dress from the House of Lords to

which The Queen was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Rt Hon Tony Blair MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her

Majesty this evening.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, today attended the Sixth Internationa Award Forum of The Duke of Edin-burgh's Award International Associ-ation in Wellington, New Zealand. Lady Dugdale has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

November 4: The Prince Edward, Trustee and Chairman of the Inter-cational Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, continued his visit to Wellington, New Zealand, for the Sixth International Award Forum. His Royal Highness today at-tended the Forum in the Michael

Later this afternoon The Prince Edward visited the St James Theatre

to review the renovation.

His Royal Highness this evening attended the Forum Reception and Dinner in the Michael Fowler Centre. November 4: The Princess Royal.
Patron, the Butler Trust, this morning visited Her Majesty's Prison
Perth, Edinburgh Road, Perth, and
was received by Her Majesty's LordLieurenant of Perth and Kinross (Sir
David Montemperer Bh)

David Montgomery Bt).

Her Royal Highness, Patron,
SENSE — the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, this after noon opened the residential home and visited offices at Temple Lane, Westport, Dundee, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Dundee (Mr Mervyn Rolfe, the Land Provosti.

CLARENCE HOUSE November 4: Mrs Michael Gordon Lennoz has succeeded Miss Jane Walker-Okeover as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen

new to cape town this morning and was received by the Premier of the Western Cape (Mr Hernus Krier). His Royal Highness this afternoon visited a community policing project

in Nyanga township.

The Prince of Wales later visited the

project.
His Royal Highness afterwards officially opened the British Council offices in Cape Town and met British Council staff and Chevening

received Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi (South African Minister of Home

Affairs).

His Royal Highness later visited
Stellenberg Farmstead.

The Prince of Wales this evening
attended a State Dinner given by
President Mandela at the Tuynhuya. KENSINGTON PALACE November 4: The Princess Margares Countess of Snowdon, President, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this afternoon attended the Society's Home Counties Region Luncheon at Cliveden in aid of the Regional Investigation Unit and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire

(Sir Nigel Mobbs). KENSINGTON PALACE

November 4: The Duke of Gloucester this morning opened the Resource Centre, Derby University, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire (Mr John Barbad) His Royal Highness later opened

the new Derby Independent Gram-mar School for Boys.

The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior, the Order of St John, this afternoon visited the St John Att-bulance Headquarters. Chesterfield. His Royal Highness afterwards visited Ash Green Specialist Learning

Disability Service Centre, Chesterfield. The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the London Playing Fields Society, this evening attended a Dinner to mark twenty one years at Patron of the Society at the Savoy Hotel, London WC2. YORK HOUSE

YUKK HOUSE

November 4: The Duke of Kent, President of the Council, King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, this morning presided over a council meeting at Beaumont Street, London WI.

Today's royal engagements

ember 4: The Prince of Wales

The Princess Royal, as president, Save the Children Fund, will attend Christmas in November, Littlewood Park, Alford, Aberdeenshire, at 12.30: as president, British Kniming and Clothing Export Council, will visit Harley & Co (Peterhead), 44 Queen Street, Peterhead, at 245; and will visit their shop at 252a Union Street at 4.25. Later, she will attend a Reel Party. Elphinstone Hall, Aberdeen

crsity, at 8.00 Princess Margaret will attend an of the Dyslexia Institute, Christie's, King Street, SW1, at 8.00.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as patron, Counsel and Care (Advice and Help for Older People), will attend a luncheon at the House of Lords, at

The Duke of Kent, as vice-chairman, British Overseas Trade Board, will visit Rover Group, Cowley, at 10.30, will visit the Medawar Centre, Oxford, 1.40; and Sharp Laboratories of Europe, Oxford Science Park, Littlemore, Oxford, at 2.15.

Memorial service

The Hon Anna Plowden A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon Anna Plowden, restorer and conservationist, was held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev Donald Reeves

The Lord is good and upright; therefore he teaches stamers the way they should go. He guides the humble in right conduct and teaches them his way. Paulm 25: 8,9

SURRELL - To Helen (née Minoprio) and Richard on 1st November, a son, George John Mathieson.

CASAMOVA - On October 31st at The Portland Hospital, to isabelle (née Sunazza) and Oltvier, a son, Alexandre, a brother for Cherles.

CHAM-EDWARDS - On 2nd November 1997 at Queen Charlotte's, to [eanette Edwards (née Singson) and Ond Alex Cham, a deoghter, Hannah Frances, a half-sister for Jacob, Edk and Mabel.

COCKGROFT - On October 28th, to Catherine (nie Aint) and Expert, a son, Robert Toby Briggs, a boother for Hebe.

DEEPARD - On October 29th a son, lames Maximilian for Patrick and Edwina. A brother for William.

November 1997 in Lebunds, to Carotine (nie Bukur) and Fami, to Carotine (nie Bukur) and Fami, a son, Eodust George Rand (Robbie), a beother for Sec.

gonia - On 3rd November 1997, in Paris, to Ridhae (náe des Garets) and Joughan, a son, Thomas - a hauther for Mary.

HAYNES - To John and Clare (note Benyon) as Novamber 4th at St Thomas Hospital, London, a son, Micah Luka.

HUTCHISON - On 2nd November 1997 at The Princess Magaret Hospital, Windsor, to Keeley and Robert, a daughter, Alice Mae, a show for Ende.

man, a screet for Arme.

MANHING - On October 29th

at Queen Charlotte's, to
Sarsh and Nick, a son, Hamy
Michael, a brother for James
and Alex.

Siscastisty - To Joszma (nie Olding) and Faul, two daughters, Charlotte and Isobel, on 17th October, sistess for Sen and Micheles.

Southwater on 21st October mexpectedly at home, to Plona (nose Bisset) and Rosy, a daughter, Ellie Mary Louise, a sister for Matthew.

Premium Bonds

The following Premium Bond prize winners were announced yesterday 357610, £17,080, Merseyside. £58,800: 39GP 913466, £18,700, Berkshire 125T 835042, £11,120, Staffordshire; 68HL 349382, £3,350, Essex: 57NW 128054, £10,000, Hertfordshire: 36RB 803393, £1,025, Tyne & Wear: 93DT 206280, £10,000, Surrey: 27NK 001301, £20,000, Essex: 62FP 484978, £5,103, Nottingham, hire: 45VS 668444, £101, Oxfordshire: 40DZ 623327, £20,000, West Midlands.

Oxfordshire: 40DZ 623327, E20.000, West Midlands. E25,808: 19DK 009187, E20.000, Tyne & Wear; £2XI 0187, £20.000, Tyne & Wear; £2XI 0187, £20.000, Tyne & Wear; £2XI 01849, £1.312, London Borough of Haringer; 56GF 627660, £3,700, East Sussex; 58GF 627660, £3,700, East Sussex; £16,050, Surrey; £20MP 253241, £20,000, West Sussex; £2002 565765, £10,000, West Sussex; £2000, Middleare; £3DN 305332, £20,000, East Sussex; £1ML 513548, £20,000, East Sussex; £41W 175278, £12,072, East Sussex; £41P 175956, £20,000, Lancashire: £67M 388153, £20,000, Lancashire: £67M 24721, £20,000, Hertfordshire: \$51W 717566, £20,000, Derbyshire.

Service luncheon

2nd Division Luncheon Club And Division Luncheon Club
General Sir Martin Farndale, President of the 2nd Division Luncheon
Club, presided at a luncheon held
yesterday at the Cavalry and Guards
Club, Major-General C.D. FarrarHockley, Commander 2nd Division,
was the chief guest and speaker. officiated. Mr Kevin Smith, Ms Carole Milner and Lord Lester of

GATS - To Marcia (ade GIII) and

POLLOCK - On Tuesday 28th October at the Hospital of St John and St Rikitheth, to Staven and Vinness (não de Sellucourt), a daughter, Rossmary Elimbeth.

(née Wright) and Reill, i daughter Sarah Louise a law Hospital, Lauarkahle

RORMISON - On 24th October 1997, to Issy (née Blanchard) and James a beautiful son, Samuel Roggie Happy and safe in

RÓWLAND PAYNE - On 24th September 1997; to Christopher and Wendy (no Mair) a daughter Anoushka Ruppy Joy.

SEYMOUR - To Tous and Allege (nde Lofthouse) a daughter Eate Hilmbeth on 30th October at the Friarage, Houtballacton.

sifeGH - On October 27th at The Fortland Hospital, to Despa and Surjadar, a son, Arjan Enzan.

SWADDLE - To Allson (note Marsh) and Paul, a son, George Patrick, on 22nd October 1997.

WATSON - On November 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Kim and Mark, a son, Thomas, a brother for Sam, Emby and Katy.

The second secon

Dinners

London Playing Fields Society
The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of
the London Playing Fields Society,
was the principal speaker at a
dinner held last night at the Savoy
Hotel to mark his 21 years as
patron of the society. Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, president,
who presided and Mr. Peter. Na. who presided and Mr Peter Nathan, chairman, also spoke.

Among others present were:
Lady Bramail, Mrs Nathan, Sir
Christopher and Lady Slade, Sir
Brian and Lady Goswell, Sir Oliver
and Lady Popplewell, Sir Peter and
Lady Parranton, Sir John Zochonis,
the Mayors and Mayoresses of
Merton, Redbridge and Waitham
Forest, Dr and Mrs Chades
Goodson-Wickes, Mr Douglas Insole
and Mrs and Mrs Andrew Wates. Institute of Actuaries

Lord Bingham of Cornhill, Lord Chief Justice, was the principal guest at the blennial dinner of the Institute of Actuaries held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr Duncan Ferguson, president, also

Masons' Company Mr Sandy Copland, Master of the Masons' Company, presided at the annual livery dinner held last night at Mercers' Hall. Mr Doug-las Imrie-Brown, Master of the Basketmakers' Company and Ma-jor-General Viscount Monckton of Brenchley were the principal guests. Among others present

any of Coacianakers and

Mr Robert Croall, Master of the Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers, presided at the annual Aircraft Industry dinner held last night a Plaisterers' Hall. Liveryman Dr Stephen Hammerton, Liveryma Group Captain Brian Symes and Mr David Marshall, Director General, Society of British Aerospace Companies, also spoke. Mr David Marshall, Air Chief Marshal Sir David Cousins and Mr Michael Marshall were the prin-

During the evening the Master presented awards to Mr David Perigo and Mr Simon Prince, the company's 1997 Eric Beverley Bur-sary winners.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain Mr Peter Curphey, President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, presided at a dim held last night at I Lambeth High Street. Dr June Crown also spoke.

Street. Dr Jume Crown also spoke. Among those present were Baroness Hooper, the Vice-Chairman of the All Party Pharmaceutical Industry Group, Sir Bernard Tomilinson, the President Designate of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, the President of the Pharmaceutical Students of the British Pharmaceutical Students Association, the Chairman of the Weish Executive, the Chairman of the Stotish Executive, the Chairman of the Stotish Executive, the Director of Flanning, NHS Executive, Department of Health, the Treasury Minister of the Isle of Man Government, the Managing Director of Boots the Chemist and the Chairman of the Guild of Health Writers.

University Women's Clark Dr Ann Walker, of Reading University, was the speaker at a dinner of the University Women's Club held yesterday at 2 Audley Square, London, Mrs Wendy Brandon, chairperson, presided.

Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne

Miss Emma Harriet Nicholson has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Nicholstyle and title of Baroness Nichol-son of Winterbourne, of Winterbourne in the Royal County of

Baron Bassam of Brighton

The life barony conferred upon Mr John Steven Bassam has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Barron Bassam of Brigh-ton, of Brighton in the County of

Sir Dominic Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes, with his wife Sally and daughters Justine (left) and Georgina, and the insignia of the knighthood he received from the Queen at a Buckingham Palace investiture yesterday

RHS flower show

Frosts take the heat out of autumn's fiery tints

By Alan Toogood, horticulture correspondent

IT IS NOT a good year for autumn leaf colour as the recent severe frosts in many areas have browned much of the foliage rather than encouraged fiery tints. However, some has been salvaged to give the Royal Horticultural Society's

Much of the colour comes from a collection of oaks included in a display of trees and shrubs from Bluebell Nursery, of Smisby, Leicestershire. Some of the most eye-catching are Quercus palustris "Swamp Pygmy" (flame shades), Q. falcata "Pagodifolia" (crimson), Q. pyrenaica "Pendula" (rich yellow), and Q. phellos (crimson).
 One of the gold medallists, Burncoose Nurseries, of Redruth, Cornwall, has included autumnal leaf and flower colour in a framework of equally colourful ever-green shrubs including Elacognus

x ebbingei "Gilt Edge" with bright yellow variegated leaves. Another gold medallist, Linclu-den Nursery, of Bisley Green, Surrey, is creating colour with conifers which range from a bright yellow Nordmann fir, Abies nordnanniana "Golden Spreader", to the new dwarf copper-tinted conifer, Podocarpus "County Park

Although hardy. flowering sasanqua camellias do herbaceous perennials. The Nat-not relish frosts, which can damional Trust's Winkworth Arbo-

dramatist. Nüremberg. 1494; James Elroy Flecker, poet, London.

physiologist and geneticist, Bhubaneswar, India, 1892; Vivien

Leigh, actress, Darjeeling, India,

DEATHS: Pierre Choderios de

Liaisons Dangereuses, Taranto, Italy, 1803; George M. Cohan, actor and song writer, New York, 1942; Maurice Utrillo, painter, Le

Vesinet, 1955; Mack Sennett, cre-

ator of the Keystone Cops films, Hollywood, 1960: Jacques Tati, actor and film director, 1982; Eamonn Andrews, broadcaster, London, 1987; Vladimir Horowitz,

pianist, Manhattan, New York, 1989.

Laclos, soldier, author of Les

Anniversaries BIRTHS: Hans Sachs, poet and

age the flowers, so are best grown in a very sheltered position out of doors or in a cool conservatory. What is thought to be the first ever exhibit of these camellias at a Westminster show has been staged by Cognurst Nursery, of Three Oaks, East Sussex, Rubbing shoul-ders with old and well-known cultivars are Paradise camellias, a new range of fragrant cultivary bred in Australia, even more in

need of frost protection. Ornamental grasses and grasslike plants are in vogue and not only are they providers of summer interest but many create an impact in autumn with subtle foliage tints and seed heads, as several exhibitors are demonstrating. South-combe Gardens, of Kenton, Devon, have combined them with tumn-flowering perennials, and the Miscanthus sinensis "Sirene" with corn yellow leaves and silvery seed heads forms an impressiv centrepiece on the stand of Cottage Garden Plants, of Cuckfield, Sussex. Forgrove plants are featuring grassy carex or ornamental sedges, ranging from the bronze Carex comans to yellow and green striped C. oshimensis "Evergold". The RHS ornamental plants

competition is not too well supported with autumnal foliage but is strong on autumnal fruits and return, of Godalming, Surrey, has won the Stephenson R. Clarke cup for four trees and shrubs with autumnal fruits (Sorbus surgentiana, Cotoneaster "Cornubia" Crataegus x lavallei "Carrierei" and Cornus kousa), and the class for four trees and shrubs with autumnal fuliage (Cornus kousa, Acer palmanum "Elegans", a prunus species and Enkianthus

In the exhibition of painting and drawings, the following artists have been awarded gold medals: Gillian Barlow, of London (watercolours of Dorset heathland plants); Linda Francis, of Kingstransity function of brom-eliads; Martha: G Kemp. of Piedmont, California (pencil drawings of wild flowers of California's Sterra Gold Country): Cherry-Anne Lavrih, of Isleworth Middlesex (watercolours of or-chids): Sheila Mannes-Abbott, of Woodley, Berkshire (watercolours of irises); Camilla Speight, of Camberwell, London (pen and ink illustrations for the RHS Concise Gardener's Dictionary; and Amanda Jayne Willoughby, of Sheffield, South Yorkshire (illustrations of plants of the urban waste ground).

The show, in the New Horti-cultural Hall, Greycoat Street,

Church of Scotland

Ordination and induction The Rev Christine Houghton, to Dun with Hillside The Rev John M. Pickering, to Errol with Kilspindie and Rait The Rev H. Taylor Brown, to Condorrat, Cumbernauld The Rev Rosemary Smith, to Old,

The Rev Richard Baxter, to Kennoway w Windygates and Balgonie

The Rev Douglas Murray, as Principal at Trinity College, Glas-gow University I stroduction The Rev Figna M.M. Winn, as Co-

Ordinator of Christian Education for Adults at North Leith, Edinburgh The Rev Alison Davidee, from

Dalmellington, Ayr. to Martyrs, Paisley

The Rev David Anderson, from Northfield, Aberdeen, to Fordyce The Rev Gordon Kirkwood, from Castlehead, Paisley, to Anderston Kelvingrove, Glasgow The Rev James N.R. McNeil, from

Castlemilk West, Glasgow, to Alva Retirements The Rev Ian Taylor from Abdie and Dunbog with Newburgh . The Rev James Philip, from Holyrood Abbey, Edinburgh The Rev David P.L. Cumming, from Kilmodan and Colintraive The Rev William Whitelaw, from Bothkennar and Carronshore

The Rev T. Leslie Barr, from

Forthcoming marriages

and Miss H.L. Smith

The engagement is announced between David James, son of Mrs

Helen Firman, of Harrow, Middlesex, and Helen Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan

and Miss P.A. King
The engagement is announced
between Fabrice, son of the late Mr

Le Roux Smith Le Roux and of Mrs Le Roux, and Penny, elder daugh-

The engagement is announced between Daniel, only son of Mr

Ian Maiden, of Beaulieu, Hampshire, and Mrs Ivan Johnston, of

Sonning Common, Berkshire.

The engagement is announced between Justin, younger son of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Scott, of Lasborough, Gloucestershire, and

Fleur, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs. Nicholas Taylor, of

The engagement is announced between Christopher, third son of Mr Jereny Wall, of Luston, Herefordshire, and Mrs John Hardwick, of Battle, East Sussex,

and Louisa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Adamson, of Little

The marriage took place on Octo-ber 11, at St Mary's Great

ton-on-Stour, Warwickshire, and Susan Maria, youngest daughter of Mr Terence Stacey, of London, and Mrs Sari Stacey, of

ter of Mr and Mrs David King.

Smith, of Plymouth, Devon.

Mr C.F.M. Le Roox

Mr D.A.J. Maiden

Mr J.W.E. Scott

Bolton, Lancashire.

md Miss L.L. Adamson

Mr C.J.L. Wall

Marriages

Mr G.E. Smith

and Miss S.M. Stacey

Dr P.A. Caschi and Dr.T.L. Secrett The engagement is announced

newcen Paul Andrew, son of Dr and Mrs Peter Cauchi, of St Julians, Malta, and Tracey Joanne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs. Robert Secrett, of Enion. Mr S.M. Chick ...

and Miss J. Eason The engagement is announced between Mark second son of Mr and Mrs J.R. Chick, of Buckinghams and Josnus, elder daughter of Mr A.G. Eason, CBE, and Mrs Eason. of Happy Valley, Hong Kong.

Mr P. Cooper and Miss R.M. Hattersley Smith. The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mrs Anne Stephen, and Kara, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Geoffrey Hattersley-Smith, of Sissinghurst.

Mr S.J. Con

and Miss R.K. Marson The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of the late Mr and Mrs Cox, of Kinver, West Midlands, and Rosalind, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Ralph Marson, of Lenham, Kent. Mr N.F. Green

and Miss E.F. Neistrop The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr Derek Green and the late Mrs Green, formerly of Kensington, London, and Lizzie, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Nelstrop, of

Mr R.J. Haynes and Miss K.E. Landen The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Rodney Haynes, of Upper Basildon, Berkshire, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dalby

Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr P. Lewis and Miss A.M. Louie The engagement is announced between Paul, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Islwyn Lewis, of Barnstaple, Devon, and Anne Morag, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Athol Lonie, of Leighton Bursway Berffordshire

Baddow, between Mr Gerard Smith, only son of Mr and Mrs Clifford Smith, and Miss Caroline Baden, only daughter of the Revd and Mrs Peter Baden.

Mr.R.J. Vines and Mrs B.M. Gilbert The marriage took place on Mon-day, October 20, in Exeter, of Mr Richard Vines to Mrs Elizabeth

National ISIS ·

Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

The 25th anniversary of the national Independent Schools Information Service was celebrated on November 1 with a concert by the National ISIS Strings Academy at St Peter's, Earon Square, London SWI, and at a reception held in The Mall Galleries. Mr R.S. Trafford, Chairman National ISIS Committee and Mr D.J. Woodhead, National Director, ISIS, welcomed the

Lectures

English-Speaking Union last evening. Professor George Wedell, Chairman, and Mrs Wedell received the guests. Among those present were:

present were
Mr. Robin O'Neill (Corbishley
Lecured) and Mrs O'Neill the
Macedonian Ambassador and Mrs
Grvenkovsid, the Charge o'Affaires
of Baigaria, Mr Hugh Adamson,
Father Bruno Brinkman, Si, Mr
Michael Cuills, Mr and Mrs D.F.
Duncan, Mr Hugh Dykes, Professor
Hugh Freeman, Mr and Mrs David
Hughes, Mr Miles Intrianov, Mr
Tony Millson, Mr Colin Mauro, Dr
and Mrs Derek Frag, Mr Bryan
Saunders, Mr Michael Smart, Mr F.
Szabo and Mrs Piona Shipley.

Scourilies Institute letture, held yesterday at Merchant Taylors Hall Mr Graham Ross Russell, chairman, presided.

On the occasion of the 21st AS; Sir Anthony Tennans, senior adviser, Morgan Stanley UK. Group, 61; the Earl of Yarborough.

Birthdays today

Mr Bryan Adams, singer, 38; Mr R.W. Annand, VC, 83; Sir John Bailey, former HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor, 69; Mr John Berger, author and art critic, 71; Mr E.R.H. Bowring, insurance broker, 82; the Right Rev F.W. Cocks, former Bishop of Shrewsbury, 84; Mr. Art Gar-Shrewsbury, 84; Mr. Art Gar-funkel, singer and composer, 56; Mrs Caroline Jackson, MEP, 51; Dr Paul Knapman, Coroner for Westminster, 53; Professor Sir David Mason, former president, General Dental Council, 69: Mr Nicholas Maw, composer, 62: Mr Jim Moir, Controller, BBC Radio

2, 56; Mr John Morris, QC, MP, Securities institute

Mrs Helen Liddell, Economic Selectory in the Treasury, was the speaker at the second annual Securities Institute lecture, held 76; Sir William Stubbs, educa-tionist, 60; Mr Eldred Pabachnik, OC. President, Board of Deputies of British Jews, 54: Mr Ned Tembo: Editor: Jewish Chronicle.

Service reunion

Sikh Brigade
Officers of the Sikh Brigade held their
annual reunion at the Army and
Navy Club yesterday. Colonel John
Smith presided.

Appointment Mr John Kelvin Toulmin, QC, to be a Circuit Judge, to sit as an Official Referee on the South Eastern Circuit,

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

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DEATHS

PERSONAL COLUMN

November 3rd very percefully at The Coders funday Rome, Shaftesbury, Adered husband of Alix and very loring lather of John and Alice. Private family funeral. Thanksgiving Service in Leadon in Rew Year to be announced. Domitions if deathed for The Coders Nessing Home say be sent to Enches Brothes FID, Gillingham, Danset SPS 4GL. CAMPAGE. Robbin James on Double-LaS-WITHERS - On November 3rd 1997 perception of Alix and year lower fails and year the sand part of Service will be held at the Garrison Church, Larkham, Witshire on Friday November 28th at 230 per Home, no flowers but he wished any doubtions to be sent to Haesmatchey Erseanch Fund of Dr. T. Lixtlewood, John Radelliffe Respital, Octool CRS 9DG.

WANTED ONTON - On 2nd Hovember 1997, suddenly at her home in Ondby (Leicustee). Amelia Ada Octom aged 51 years, loved wife of the into FR. Li. John Goodsers Octom. Deur mother of Viviante and Ganadmother of Christophie, Thnothy and Mark. Feneral Service at 2t James Church, Harrington, Eventum on Wednesday November 12th at 12 noon. Internant following in the Churchyand. All flowers to Ginna & Gatteridge or to the church and further enquiries to Ginna & Gatteridge or to the church and further enquiries to Ginna & Gutteridge Peneral Directors of Leicertee, tek. MURTER - Margaret Mary Phyllis (ase Curnitor). Pancaculty in her sleep at home on Thursday 30th October, Margaret, dearly leved wife of Statusy Hunter, Mother of Pances, Branket, Andrew, Caroline, and David, and Gandmother of Becky, Ben, Essina, Bram, Sam, Henricetta, Imbella, Sundra, Jenny, and Alexander. Funeral on Wednesday November 5th, at Wardston Crematorium, where a service will be held in the Castaer Chapel at 3.15 pm, to which all friends are invited. Funeral forces only. Denations if desired to IFA.W. WHITE- Hibbed Annie on 1st November 1997 aged 95 year, sister of the interpose White, pencefully at Enganes Recidential, Home. Funeral Service at Chilterns Crematorium, Americham, Bucks, on Thersday 13th November at 2 ps. Engantee Service at Chilterns Crematorium, Amerikam, Bucks, en Thursday 13th Royanbur at 2 pm. Rayandes to H.C. Galmatond Left, see Old94 634379.

WHARL Mriger Danis Lealis Rick Waler Koyli (Bathsol) on 31st October Pamens on Monday 10th Novumber at 3pm, 3t Peter's Church, Rambieden, Surrey.

WHILE - Stress. Pescafully at home on November 1st, 1977, aged 81, wife of the late David Lieure d'Anyes, willing Famens Survice will be held at Guildford Counstenium at 12 mon on Priday 7th Novumber Pamity House only. Dennishm to Phyllic Tuckwell Hospice, Paming, Survy.

WHILANS Dr. G. Edward

POLSLASE - John, beloved husband of Ann and wonderful step-fether to Luis Cary, died peecefull at his home in Sotogrande on October 28th, RLP.

mercits - Dr. Anthony John Hope Reford, husband of Monice and much loved father, died pescentilly on October 31st. Regulem Mass 2.30 pm Monday 10th Hovember St Aloysius, Woodstock Road, Oxford.

PRIVATE FARRAR - Susan, All our leve desc Socie on your birthday, at ever. Mum, Rosde and Junity and Robert.

WILLIAMS - Dz. C. Edward

Williams died yeardully on November ist. He will be density missed by Ann. Golf. Sally, Mike, Liz, Eschard, Liu, Campbell and Kite, Potsend 140 ym Thundny Hovember-dik at Trury Communicum. Currowill.

Crimatedian, Commit.

IN MEMORIAM ---

Time MASs on mountaing the making of the film & my Vigura extraordies. If you want to share your hattiving, con-inst fair 00 451 7748932. TICKETS FOR SALE.

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Rugby Union 97/96 Soccer Packages Wenbledon & Accot 86 Chellenham Festival Ossis, The Verve, Phil Collins West End Shows All are see. Proc Balloury

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Hickor,

MARKY - Eric Roy John passed away peacefully on Neyember Let. Much loved husband of Kanin, father of Roper and grandfather of Ruper, respected and loved by all who knew kin. Private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations to the Hospital of St John & St Elizabeth, 60 Grove Rad Road, 51 John Wood, London KWE FRE would be gattefully received. CAMPUBLE. Junat Amno on November 2nd in her 100th year. Formarly of Sampfard Spiney, Davon. Very much loved by her fundly and all her many felends. Funcal et Sampford Spiney Farish Church on November 11th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, denserious if wished to the Church clo Mozzia Brothers, I Drake Road, Tavistock. JOY-Hisabeth June (née Boe), beloved wife of Kit and devoted nother to Junes and Househ, died pesceluly at home on 4th November 1997. Funcail Service at St. Many's Clemen, Merton Pake on Monday 10th Howenber at 230 pm. Femily House unity-donations it desired to Marie Curie Cancar Care, cfo Co-operative Teneral Services, 91 London Read, Marden, Servey, Shife SEP. HALLETT - On November 3rd, Geoffrey St. John ERCS, theil pencefully, at home with his family. Beloved husband of Patticle, adored father and gamdischer. He never lost his sense of hunour and bose his long illness with exermons dignity and counse. Private creastion. Service of Thursbuffring at It John the Buyfut, Johnson Priday 14th November 230 pm. Please no flowers, but he wished any domations to be sent to The Lymington, House & Sons, N/D, Lymington, Hause & Sons, N/D, Lymington, Hausehist. DEWDMEY - Margaret died peacefully in Bristol aged 88 on November 2nd. She was the much loved write of William (deceased) and the mother of Marilya and Richard, also the grandmother of Sophia, Oliver and Cay. Funeral Service Tuesday 11th November 12 mean at Chief Church, Clifton, Bristol. Houst ributes or departies to Brill may be sent clo Thomas Davis Funeral Directon, Southwills Lodge, Seuthwills Road, Bristol, vet (0117) 9661965. KHEMLAMI - Mrs Padma Arjandas pescelully on 1st Novamber 1997, beloved mother of Pelys Assomuli und gandmother of Sujain V. Assomall. May God rast has soul in pesca. MARRIOTT - On November 2nd 1997 John Hiller Matriott CFF. MBCS, of Bolton, All exquiries Estem, 1sh (01204) 522465. Hills - Anthony Lawrence on this Hovember after a long linese, husband of Persein and Scher of Jensey, Hus-and Carella, Funezal persein. No flowers planse but donations if deathed to the layed Star and Garter House, McLenand. DECRMSON - Aune Margaret Decides on 190, peacefully de 4th Newvanber in Brendoncare, Winebester, offer a long Ethese borne with courage and dignity. Sister of John. Faneral Service at Golders Green Commission on Wednesday 12th Neonther et 1215 pm. Family flowers only, donations to Brendon Mursing Trest, Park Rond, MASON - Aman (nie Byford) of Macton Park, aged 54 years, penorfully at 32 Explant's Hospico on 2nd November 1997, uits of Nell, mother of Plona and Malon. Present Service 2.30 ym Tuesday 17th November at \$6 Mary's Chesch, Marron Prof. Family Service only. Donations if desired to 51 England's Hospico, London Band, North Chessa, Surrey SES TEX. Michaeld

MOMOUR - On 25th October

1997 suddenly in Highelitis,
Dr. Alfred John Honour,
beloved hashand of Lys.
Raquirles to Av. Hident
Funeral Directors,

Woodstock Road, Oxford.

904/HMEV - Edward (Taddie')
aged 93, much loved
hushand for 67 years of
Toodie' (Sun) pencahally, at
Haineschury Rosyltai on
Elet October. No famenal.

TUER - Elimbethe Rossmary
on Sandry, 26th October,
1997 in hospital after a long
Ulinetts Dozne with great
counties. Pursural Service
Priday, 7th November at
11.50 am, & Damy Charch,
Rotherfield. Fundly Lowets
only, Damedous H desired to
the Arthritis and
Rhesamations Council clo
Paul Bysorth Funeral
Diversity, Courbonough. Tak
(01892) 6850000.

and Gradmother. Potenti Service M. N. Copen Charch, Winchester on Wednesday 12th November at 2 par. Pamily flowers only, but downlow, if desired, to The Booglad of St Crow 65 Jab. Seek & Son, Chesit House, Winchester.

HORPE - Lowis (Sch. November 1913 - 10th October 1977), hamsabered after twenty years with love and admiration. YOUNG - Frank, 5th November 1972, Always in my life, Money WANTED

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John Starks, naval architect, died in Teignmouth, Devon, on October 17 aged 80. He was born in Devonport on April 29, 1917.

hen, in 1964, Cunard placed the order for its new cruise liner Queen Elizabeth 2, John Starks was the technical director of the Clydeside shipbuilders John Brown and Co, who were to design and build the vessel. It was, therefore, Starks who headed the technical team that realised Cunard's elegant design, a rival to P&O's Canberra.

It was the high point in a distinguished career of ship design that had earlier encompassed Britain's first nuclear submarine, the Dreadnought. That in itself had been a milestone in a life that had been largely devoted to improving submarine design as it progressed from the cramped boats of the Second World War through to the nuclear age.

John Frederick Starks was the third of six brothers, brought up in the Devonport district of Plymouth. His mother was left a widow when he was still young and the family experienced some hardship. Though academically bright, Starks had to leave Devumport High School at 15 to earn his living and so relieve the strain on the family finances. He became a shipwright apprentice at Devonport Dockyard in 1932. In 1936 he gained a cadetship in naval construction, and was selected for training with the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors. He studied at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and gained a first-class professional

He joined the corps in 1939, and throughout the Second World War worked on submarine design. He was involved in the redesign of the Swordfish class, known as the 1940 "S" Class submarine, as well as the "U" Class, both of which later had a leading role in disrupting Rommel's supply line to North Africa. He also worked on the "A" Class submarine, which had a welded pressure hull that enabled it to dive to greater

depths than boats with rivetted hulls. in 1945 Starks joined the staff of Admiral (Submarines) with the rank of constructor commander. Even in a submarine service where the accent is on youth, a 28-year-old commander



was something of a phenomenon. In a departure from design, Stark was involved in the modernising of submarine escape equipment and procedures. At this time, too, the German U-boat Graph was captured and put into service with the Royal Navy. Starks was greatly interested in the differences between British and German submarines, and in March 1948 he presented a paper to the Institute of Naval Architects on German U-Boat design and production.

Later that year he first became associated with the shipbuilders John Brown and Co at Clydebank. He was based in Glasgow as the Admiralty's principal ship overseer, representing the Admiralty's interests among all the Clyde shipbuilding companies engaged in naval work. This embraced construction of the Tiger Class cruisers which, finally completed in the 1950s, were fitted with automatic 6in and 3in guns to make them a formidable weapons plat-form. The conception of a new and powerful class of flotilla leader gave rise to the Daring Class, which also entered service in the 1950s.

From 1951 to 1955 Starks was in Washington, where he worked with the British Joint Services Mission. The many American friends he made there stood him in good stead during his subsequent work on nuclear submarine design, and it was a particularly happy time for him, his wife Maggie and their two sons.

Back in Britain in 1955, at the Admiralty in Bath, he became chief constructor in charge of a team working on "new design" submarines, the first to go into service with



The QE2, designed and built on the Clyde - a project which gave John Starks great satisfaction

the Royal Navy in the postwar period for at that time the submarine fleet was entirely of Second World War vintage). These new submarines were the Porpoise and Oberon classes, which, for the first time, used plastics and glass fibre in their construction. With their high submerged speeds, (16 knots to the "A" Class's 8 knots) and improved diving depths, they were the final expression of conventional submarine design before the advent of nuclear propulsion opened seemingly boundless possibilities for the undersea weapon.

JOHN STARKS

Starks was also involved in the work which led to the Royal Navy's first guided missile ships, the County Class destroyers, of which the first to enter service was HMS Devonshire. (Other-service critics of this class claimed that the Navy had pulled a fast one for the purposes of the defence estimates, and that the County Class were really cruisers. Certainly, by the time Devonshire was completed in 1962 she was, at 5,200 tons, almost twice as heavy as the standard destroyer of those times. and her successors grew even larger.) Starks was next employed on the design of Britain's first nuclear submarines. Although the reactor

technology was American, the rest of the boat, including its sonar and weaponry was entirely British in design. *Dreadnought*, the first of a class of submarines which were hunter killers and not ballistic missile carriers, was launched in 1960. Of all the ships he designed, she was to remain Starks's favourite.

In 1960 he left the Admiralty to join John Brown as technical director. The QE2 project gave him great satisfaction. She was a 900ft vessel displacing only 58,000 tons, remarkable statistics which owed much to the fact that aluminium was used extensively in her construction. As a result, this great ship had a draught of only 31ft. But the clouds were gathering around John Brown. Al-ready the shipbuilding industry was being challenged by air travel and by foreign competition. In 1968 John Brown joined Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, but this was to be a short lived marriage. The company went bankrupt in 1971, though a sit-in by the workforce prolonged its life, after a fashion, into 1972.

By that time Starks had been invited to join Vosper Thorneycroft, the Southampton shipbuilders, and to supervise the work they were doing on Brazilian navy frigates in Rio de Janeiro. After the financial stress of the years on the Clyde, it was a very welcome opportunity. In 1972 he and his wife moved to Rio where they spent five happy years.

On his return to Britain in 1977. Starks retired to his native Devon, to Teignmouth, and enjoyed a contented retirement by the sea for 20 years. He is survived by his wife Maggie and by

memorial is the succession of

who graduated into the City Ballet, and the American Bal-

let Theatre, under his guid-

ance. He also regularly staged

some of Bournonville's show-

piece dances for the school's annual public programmes,

and compiled a collection of

these into a big Bournonville

PROFESSOR A. H. **ARMSTRONG**

Professor A. H. Armstrong, FBA, classical scholar, died on October 16 aged 88. He was born on August 13, 1909.

HILARY ARMSTRONG was one of a small band of European scholars who in the middle years of this century re-established Plotinus in the position he had been given by Renaissance humanists as one of the leading philosophers of the ancient world, equalled in importance only by Plato and Aristotle.

When Armstrong published his Introduction to Ancient Philosophy in 1947, this was not a view that would have been familiar to classical scholars of the British school. nor was it welcomed by them. But since then detailed knowledge of the intricacies of Plotinus's philosophy has been increasingly recognised as essential to a rounded study of the thought of the ancient world, and as an indispens-able tool for understanding the thought of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

Armstrong's most important contribution to this quiet revolution was his translation into English of the new text of Plotinus's Enneads. When the seventh and final volume of his translation was published in 1988, Armstrong's interest neo-Platonism already stretched back more than half a century, to the years he had spent in Cambridge and Swansea before the war, breaking the ground for his pioneering work. The Architecture of the Intelligible Universe in Plotinus, which Cambridge University Press published in 1940.

Arthur Hilary Armstrong was educated at Lancing and at Jesus College, Cambridge. On graduation, he stayed for a while at Cambridge, with a post at the Classics Faculty library, before moving to Swansea in 1936 as an assistant lecturer in Classics. From 1939 he was Professor of Classics at Valletta, Malta, until the evacuation of British civilians in 1943, when he returned to England. going first to Beaumont College and then returning outstanding male dancers to the University of Wales at

Cardiff. In 1950 he was appointed to the Gladstone Chair of Greek in Liverpool. Here the significance of his work on Plotinus was increasingly recognised. In 1967 he edited the Cambridge History of Later Greek and Early Medieval Philosophy. By 1970, English mistrust of neo-Platonism had waned sufficiently for Armstrong's work on Plotinus to be rewarded by his election as a fellow of the British Academy.

He had never relished the burdens of academic administration, so in 1972 he took early retirement from his Chair at Liverpool, and accepted an

invitation to move to the University of Dalhousie, at Halifax in Nova Scotia. There a new chair was specially created for him, allowing him to pursue his teaching and research unfertered by external commitments. In 1983, however, he returned to his

home in Shropshire. Naturally reticent, Armstrong greatly valued the stimulus and affection of colleagues and friends. A keen gardener and walker, he did much of his thinking in the open air. He was a voracious reader into advanced old age and was blessed with an

astonishing gift of recall.

As well as philosophy, reli gion played a large part in his inner world. The son of a High Church Tory vicar (first of West Dean, then of Funtingdon, both in Sussex) he was educated as a devout Anglican. As a young man at Cambridge he was received into the Roman Catholic Church and married Deborah Wilson of a Midlands Ouaker family.

Armstrong, whose theological sympathies were always liberal, welcomed the aggior namento under Pope John XXIII. Over many years he contributed articles and reviews to Catholic journals such as The Heythrop Journal, Downside Review, The Tablet and Eastern Churches Quarterly, concerning himself mainly with the connections between philosophy and theology in the Patristic Age. He was a pioneer founder, with others, of the quadrennial Oxford Patristic Conference. He also assisted the Catholic hierarchy, following the second Vatican Council, in the translation of liturgical texts into English. He was not unhappy to don the mantle of Catholic philosopher.

Well before the second Vatican council he had been much concerned at the repression of theologians and scholars under Pope Pius XII, and various factors in later life contributed to make him ever more critical of Christian dogmatism. He eventually returned without fuss to the Church of England. occupying a prominent for-ward pew at the weekly Sunday morning worship in St Laurence's, Ludlow.

There, in Ludlow church yard, his ashes have been added to those of his wife. close by the ashes of another distinguished classical scholar, A. E. Housman. No two men could have been more dissimilar in their lives or in their beliefs, but both recognised the importance. for humane learning, of a scrupulous study of the texts of antiquity. Both did so in a way that was quintessentially English yet won recognition in the wider world of European clas-

Hilary Armstrong is survived by two sons and a daughter, two daughters predeceased him.

sical scholarship.





Williams teaching at the School of American Ballet

Stanley Williams, hallet dancer and teacher, died on October 21 aged 72. He was born at Chappel. Essex, on March 5, 1925.

WHEN the Royal Danish Ballet gave its first London season at Covent Garden in 1953, an autograph hunter trying to identify the unfamiliar dancers was asking them to pronounce their names as they emerged from the stage door. To his surprise, the answer from one of the leading men was "Williams"

English by birth, Stanley Williams had grown up in Denmark, begun dancing there and became one of the most stylish artists of the Royal Theatre. But an even more distinguished career was to follow when he moved to New York and became recognised as probably the best ballet teacher anywhere during the past three decades.

as a performer or teacher, in brilliant effects. What he was was his single-minded pursuit of this that drew such virtuosos as Nureyev and Baryshnikov to his classes at the School of American Ballet. happy to stand at the barre next to students so as to benefit from his concentration on exactness and finish, control and shape, the relationship of one step to another within the

musical phrase.

Williams's obsession with excellence, and a certain personal reticence, may have limited his own performing career. He was a joy to watch in the ballets of the 19thcentury Danish master August Bournonville, for the smooth eloquence he gave to the solos in Napoli and other works. But only once or twice was he given a role that provoked more theatrical fire

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med company are requested before 33 December 1997 and their names, addresses

tique and as Mercutio in Ashton's Romeo and Juliet. So it was no great sadness to him when an injury restricted him to the less demanding roles, since by then he had found that he enjoyed teaching others more than performing. Stanley Williams's father was an English horse dealer and former jockey, but his

Massine's Symphonie Fantas-

mother was Danish and they moved from Newmarket to Copenhagen when he was about seven. He entered the Royal Theatre's ballet school at nine, on the suggestion of a family friend. He duly graduated into the company and at 24 was promoted to solo dancer - the highest rank, corresponding to principal dancer elsewhere. But the then director, Har-

old Lander, must have observed his thoughtful attitude to dancing, and only a year later, in 1950, asked him to begin giving some classes too. Williams never failed to credit his own chief teacher. Karl Marrild, but was out of sympathy with his "sergeant-major" manner, and acquired more understanding of teaching from long discussions with the Russian Vera Volkova. who became artistic adviser to the Royal Danish Ballet.

When George Balanchine was in Copenhagen a few years later, he watched Williams's classes with interest and eventually invited him to New York. He went first as a guest teacher, but in 1964 joined the faculty of the New York City Ballet and its attached school of American Ballet Williams soon made himself the most vital member of the faculty, of which he rose to become chairman.

He taught both boys and girls at all levels, but his chief

Divertissement, which entered the City Ballet's repertoire to much acclaim. Sadly, Williams's native land saw little of him, although one of the earliest proofs of his ability had come during his one brief spell with a British company: the shortlived Ballet Comique founded by the designer George Kirsta in 1954. Offering a repertoire of new ballets by young choreographers, the company failed to find audiences on its opening tour, and was dissolved after a few months. Not, however, before it had shown excellent dancing by its corps de ballet as well as the soloists,

and among some of its young dancers a remarkable im provement on their previous work. The credit for this was clearly due to Williams, who had taken leave of absence from Copenhagen to act as ballet master and teacher. besides dancing in ballets by Peter Darrell and others. Williams received honours in both of his adopted coun-

tries. More important to him was the high regard and affection in which he was held by dancers. He was not married, and he did not retire; his work was his life to the end. His youthful, ebullient gregariousness gradually changed to a more withdrawn manner, but he never lost his love for his profession and his pride in it nor the essential kindness behind even his strictest demands.



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LEGAL NOTICES

The Insolvency Act 1986
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NOTICE IS REGISSY GIVEN yearrease to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MINIMUM
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LEGAL, PUBLIC, **COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY** NOTICES TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-680 6878 OR FAX: 0171-481 9313 by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

The Commissionies purpose in make a Scheme for this claustry. A copy of the draft scheme can be seen at GAP Brount, 44 Opposits Road, Reading, by application to the Secretary of the Trust or one.

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE BEATLES ON PARADE

Prince of Wales Theatre: Royal Variety Performance

Tell artists - or their audiences for that matter - that they are assisting at a great occasion and they at once create an atmosphere which leaves criticism stunned and helpless. Such an occasion is the Royal Variety Performance in aid of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund: this year's performance took place last night in the presence of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Without this special atmosphere the show might well have worried us, for since the rise of television, it has almost inevitably become a mixture that refuses to congulate. What, we find ourselves asking, has the tragic, mutually destructive relationship of Albert Steptoe and his son Harold to do with the world of simple innocence which Mr. Eric Sykes and Hattie Jacques enter for their brother-and-sister act?

ON THIS DAY

November 5, 1963

Home grown talent has always had a leading role in this hardy annual. 1963 was no exception to the rule. The reviewer appears, rather reluctantly, to have enjoyed the show

What has either of these small-scale performances to do with a cheerful bit of ling in which Mr. Charlie Drake exploits his tininess and Miss Tessa Davies's taliness. or with genial, large-scale show-stopping extracts from Pickwick and Half a Sixpence except that we would never on these occasions, willingly do without Mr. Drake, Mr. Harry Secombe and Mr. Tommy Steele. It is possible to ask what connexion any of these pleasures has with the youthfully private world in which The Beatles exercise the combination of musical naivety with electronic sophistication which suits their engaging, irreverent cheerfulness and the loudest common chords since the end of Ein Heldenleben.

This is not to say that we object to any of the ingredients of this vigorous, enjoyable hotchpotch. Miss Jacques and Mr. Sykes are personalities welcome wherever they are encountered, and any programme profits from the totally imagined, creative acting which Mr. Harry H. Corbett and Mr. Wilfrid Brambell bring to the Steptoes.

In the parade of stars there was, perhaps. less that was borrowed from television than might have been expected. Mr. Dickie Henderson filled occasional gaps with some polished work, Mr. Francis Brunn juggled incredibly and Miss Susan Maughan sang with vigorous enthusiasm. The Clark Brothers' gaily gymnastic dancing and the "Rose Adagio" for The Sleeping Beauty, danced by Miss Nadia Nerina and members of the Royal Ballet gave pleasure,

Messrs. Michael Flanders and Donald Swan provided relaxed, sonhisticated wit-Miss Marlene Dietrich, tall, slim, immobile provided the evening's magical contact with a legendary world in which stars never set.

The initial thawing out process was undertaken by Mr. Max Bygraves with

NEWS:

Louise ruling for the Internet

■ Louise Woodward could learn today whether she is to escape the life sentence imposed on her for murdering the eightmonth-old baby Matthew Eappen.

Judge Hiller B. Zobel, who heard emergency motions calling for her release, said that he could publish his decision on the Internet today. He also gave a hint that the verdict could be reduced to one of assault and battery, which would mean that she could be freed from Framingham prison....

Rape victim wins record damages

■ A mother of three has been awarded record damages of nearly £74,000 by a county court judge after she sued her former boss, whom she accused of raping her twice. With costs, this will take the total bill for the company director she claimed attacked her to over £132,000....

Prince's tribute

For the first time since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the Prince of Wales paid public tribute to his former wife's charity .Page l

Royal Opera crisis

The Royal Opera company could be forced to declare itself bankrupt within a week, Lord Chadlington, its chairman, told MPs. He had until November 12 to present a rescue package to thePage 1, 5 Arts Council.....

Europe campaign

A national campaign to counter the tide of Euroscepticism was launched by the Government and the Liberal Democrats.....Page 2

WPC in tears

A WPC broke down in tears in court as she described how she found herself alone among a crowd of youngsters who atracked her screaming: "kill her. kill her"

School victory

Children whose parents waged a year-long legal battle to secure places at a local comprehensive celebrated victory Page 9

'Food deserts'

Pockets of inner-city and rural Britain have become "food deserts" threatening the health of the poor and elderly, the Government said. Ministers are now considering ways of improving Page 10

Workers' rule

The European Commission will prepare the way today for a new law under the social chapter that would require firms to consult employees on policy Page 11

Children's TV

Children are being starved of quality television because of too many of cartoons, said broadcasting watchdogs...

Lorry violence

Tony Blair urged Lionel Jospin. the French Prime Minister, to take swift action to help British lorry drivers stranded by the strike in France, as violence erupted near Boulogne ... Page 15 Saddam meeting

Irag's confrontation with the Uni-

ted Nations enters a critical phase when a UN delegation arrives in Baghdad hoping to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans in inspection teams......Page 16

Torture allegation

A Zambian opposition politician has been tortured while under detention for alleged involvement in last week's failed military uprising, his lawyer said Page 17

Animal rights -The Indian Government is showing signs of bowing to the concerns of animal rights activists, in a country where large parts of the

beasts of burden...

economy depend on overworked

........... Page 18

Boycott gives himself out

■ The impossible now looks inevitable. Geoffrey Boycott, Yorkshire's doughtiest opening bat is selling up in his home county and moving to bournemouth and, cricketing shock, Richie Benaud, the former Australian captain, has agreed to be the patron of France Cricket, the new governing body across the Channel ..



The Prince of Wales greets volunteers from a development project at the Crossroads shantytown outside Cape Town. Page 1

Botnar case: After six years of investigation, involving up to 135 inspectors incurring millions of pounds of costs, the Inland Revenue dropped its prosecution of Octav Botnar, the former chairman of Nissan UKPage 27

Brokers bids: Willis Corroon and Sedgwick, the last two heavyweight insurance brokers in the UK, could be in American hands by the end of ...Page 27

Cautious consumers: Optimism appears to have peaked after hitting levels not seen since 1988, a __Page 27 survey shows ... Markets: The FTSE i00 fell 9 to 4,897.4. Sterling was unchanged at

102.9 with the pound rising .84 cents to \$1.6854 but falling 1.11 pfennigs to DM2.9002 Page 30

Footbell: Manchester United arrived in Holland for their Champions' League tie confident that they can beat Feyenoord by more than one goal.

Athletics: Bruce Longden, who coached Sally Gunnell, and Carl Johnson, who worked with Jonathan Edwards, were among the leading British coaches made redundant because of the sport's financial crisis....

Rugby union: Lloyds TSB is expected to announce a deal to sponsor the five nations worth £15 million over the next three years .. Page 49 Squash: Seven Britons reached the second round of the World Open championship in Malaysia including Simon Parke, the England

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Geoff Brown reviews

Travolta, left, and

Face/Off, starring John

■ FILMS

House strife: As the biggest arts row for years unfolds at Covent Garden, the dance and opera critics of The Times assess the implications, and Richard Morrison outlines political risks ...

Journey main: Vaughan Williams's opera The Pilgrim's Progress receives a superb semi-staged performance by the Royal OperaPage 40 Direct action: "An open mind and a steely grip" - the challenging di-rector Robert Wilson talks about

his contribution to the French The-

atre Season, Marguerite Duras's La Maladie de la Mort....Page 41 Playing away: At the end of their European tour, Raymond Leppard and his Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra give a powerful Festival

Sexual oddity: How Alfred Kinsey's view of women was at odds with his philosophy of sexual liberation . . . final extract from the James H. Jones biography of the social scientist..... Fast track: League tables in education are now considered so important that even toddlers are being tested to put them on the fast track to high grades.... ...Page 21

Nigelia Lawson: Englishness and innocence: Clare Short, the Government's great treasure; an ammated argument...Page 21

Top spots: What are the most desirable addresses in London? A survey of upmarket estate agents has

produced a surprising list Page 43 According to Helmut Kohl, the Germany Army as a whole should not be defamed just because of a

minority of ultra-Right soldiers. But the alarm has its origins in the history of Germany and Europe. Hitler salutes and ant-Semitic slogans by Germans in uniform are disturbing, as is the news that neo-Nazis are using e-mail and the internet to spread their message of hate. Kohl has to confront and isolate this evil in order to nip it in the bud. What is at stake is not only the image of the German armed forces but the image of the coun-- La Repubblica, Rome

Preview: A pub landlady is beaten senseless and nobody helps. Bystanders. (BBC2, 9pm). Review: Matthew Bond considers women behind the wheel and in the classroom

The good emusceptics Crude, xenophobic, old-fashioned slogans based on the presence of the Queen's head on the banknote obscure the far more cogent and intellectual arguments of modern Euroscepticism Page 23

Tomorrow, when President Chirac and M Jospin arrive in London for an Anglo-French summit, Tony Blair must demand guarded convoys as an absolute minimum

short-term measure...... Page 23

Europe's highwaymen

Circling the square If Trafalgar Square's problems can be imaginatively solved, it will serve as a model for other

Page 23

SIMON JENKINS Grants are being cut. Boards are in turmoil. Budgets are flying everywhere. And already the Treasury Scarpias are avenged. It was a real

dead ... **GEORGE SOROS**

It is for the people of Europe to decide exactly what kind of Europe they want. The EU as it is fails to meet their needs and aspirations. But what is imperfect can be improved. This is what open society is all about

bullet, Tosca. The Coliseum is

ALAN COREN

Up until last Monday morning, I had little in common with St Paul. ... Page 22

PETER RIDDELL

The Government now faces the first real test of its often repeated commitment to strengthen the role of Parliament in scrutinising decisions...

John Starks, naval architect; Professor A.H. Armstrong, classical scholar, Stanley Williams, ballet dancer and teacherPage 25

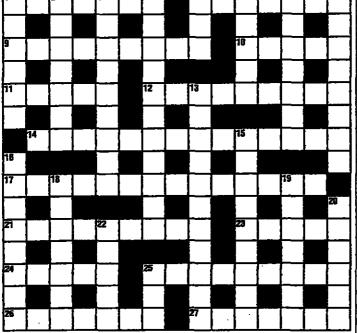
EMU; abortion debate; press free-

dom; whaling dispute: prayers in . ; pubs; bicycle speeds; language tsar_ . Page 23

WE ST

Mate

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,629



- **ACROSS** 1 Island race - runs it in error (7). 5 Classic route modern French
- artist follows (2.5). 9 Cockney's pet mother found in port (9).
- 10 Italian city needing another name when burnt (5). 1) In which a Frenchman sleeps in the dark (5).
- 12 Play written by Shaw as a vehicle for Jonathan and others (9). 14 Line of children hurries along.
- showing insincere grief (9.5). 17 A very raw point on part of one's leg (8.6). 21 Controller of vital beat who sets
- speed limits? (9). 23 By Mondrian, a sacred work of
- 24 Patterned cloth put on piano (5). 25 Steak done hadly in French place
 - Solution to Puzzle No 20,628

- 26 One English poet's bashful about Parisienne... (7). ... while another's in her bed
- endlessly (7).

- Cheerfully endure speculator hav ing success (4,2). 2 Continentals are not so narrow minded (7).
- 3 All the same, I make an impression on one state (9). 4 With head seen, kid may be discovered in this (4-3-4).
- Amount Marathon leader's up? 6 Man, for example, holding up line of line thread (5).
- 7 English king a European upset in island (7). 8 Trial for motorist - Toad crashing into others (4.4).
- 13 Survive bad piece of driving run into however (4.7). 15 Money the first bidder offered for kitchen equipment (3-6).
- 18 Alternative for the acre (7). 19 Outstanding bowling? Exactly (7). 20 Bishop blessing dog (6).

16 Source of divine music Peter

transmits (3.5).

- 22 Gong bringing many into dinner, perhaps (5). 25 Essay of 15 lines (3).
- Times Two Crossword, page 52 CTIME'S NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1997. Published and primed and licensed for dist charged lighter derivative forms by Times Sewspapers Ltd. FO Box 495, Vin London: See England 17:1-722 Send and also primed all Miling Road, Prescop, Mer-ogists. 1546 2000 Wednesday, Notember 5, 1997. Registered as a newsp

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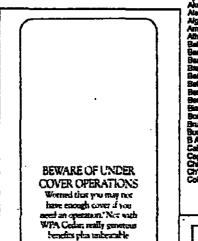
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HOURS OF DARKNESS

First quarter November ?

London 4 27 pm to 7 53 cm Bristol 4 36 pm to 7 12 cm Edinburgh 4 24 pm to 7 32





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Gina Gershon **BOOKS** Peter Ackrovd marvels: the time-defying spirit

of London, Joanna Pitman on the geisha PORTLAST General: Scotland will start overcast with rain, becoming lighter and more showery. Northern Iraland will be breezy and mostly cloudy with rain, England and Malland will be showed and mostly cloudy with rain. England and near the coast. A blustery southwest wind.
Max 16C (61F).

E England, Central N, NE England:
bright spells and isolated showers. A fresh
southwest wind. Max 15C (59F).

Late District, Isle of Man, N ireland:
mostly cloudy wife pain A bystery confi-

Wales will have a mild but blustery day with showers. Eastern England will have longer dry periods.

Tonight it will remain blustery everywhere. There will be further rain across western Scotland and Northern Iteland. Wales and western parts of England will have showers, heavy in southwest England, but eastern England will be mostly dry.

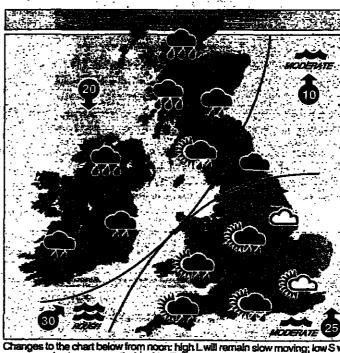
Lundon, E Anglia, E Midlands, W Midlands, S Wales, N Wales, HW England: a few bright spells, but mostly cloudy with showers A blustery southwest wind. Max 16C (61F). ☐ SE England, Central S England, Channel tales, SW England: bright spells but rather cloudy with showers, heaviest

☐ Liste Dispiret, size of Marx, in Irotand:
mostly cloudy with rain. A blustery northwest wind. Max 14C (57F).
☐ SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW
Scotland, Orticely, Shettlands, overcast,
rain. Fresh north wind. Max 13C (55F).
☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee,
Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray
Firth, NE Scotland: cloudy with rain,
becoming chier. A fresh southeast wind ☐ Republic of Ireland: cloudy with rain, becoming clearer later. Winds moderate, westerly Max 13C (SSF). ألعات 🖺

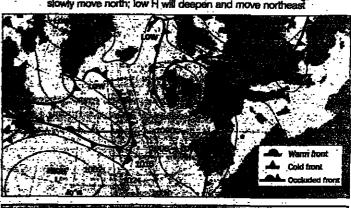
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Changes to the chart below from noon; high L will remain slow moving; low S will slowly move north; low H will deepen and move northeast



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Highest day temp: Guernsey 16C (61F); lowest day mex: Loch Glasca C (46F); highest raintell: Culdrose, Corneal, 0.55kr, highest sunshine: Low



INSIDE SECTION



BUSINESS

Shoppers poised to tame their spending in 1998 PAGE 31



HOMES

One of London's best-known estate agents looks abroad **PAGE 43**



SPORT

Who goes next now the sacking season is here? **PAGES 47-52**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO**

> **PAGES** 50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997

Barclays sets time limit to agree BZW deal

By Richard Miles, banking correspondent

BARCLAYS has given Credit Suisse First Boston one week to strike a deal over the acquisition of large chunks of BZW, the investment bankng arm it put up for sale at the beginning of October.

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, said last night that the bank had entered exclusive discussions with CSFB over its proposal to buy the UK and continental European equities arm, as well as the mergers and acquisitions and equities capital markets businesses of BZW.

Excluded from the proposal are BZW's businesses in Australasia and Asia Pacific, as well as the UK equities derivatives arm. Barclays will seek buyers for these businesses separately, though interest has

Interest

rate

worries

surface

CONSUMER optimism

appears to have peaked

after hitting levels not seen

since 1988, a survey pub-lished today shows

(Alasdair Murray writes).

Strategies Survey of consumer sentiment found that worries about rising

interest rates and inflation

are undermining optimism

The quarterly Business

What we tried to do with inere were. CSFB have decid

Mr Taylor. About 1.000 of BZW's 7.500 staff, mostly in the front office, will transfer to CSFB if the deal goes ahead. The fate of the back office is less clear. although Mr Taylor suggested that CSFB might outsource

last night, except to confirm that it had begun exclusive talks with Barclays. If an agreement can be reached, the Swiss-owned investment bank, which is strong in US equities, will use BZW as the platform for further expansion into European equities. How-

about the economy. Bridget Rosewell, chairman of Business Strategies and a former member of the Treasury Panel of Indpendent Advisers, said the survey showed that the Bank of England should resist making further rate rises. "The message is that interest rates should be left

THE French Government has proposed that Jean-Claude Trichet, Governor of the Banque de France, should head the European Central Bank. The move is expected to bring a political row with Germany which is backing Wim Duisenberg. former head of the Dutch Pizza executive central bank and current chief of the European Monetary Institute, the embryo ECB. The ECB chief and six-member directorate will buys 845 pubs

unchanged. There is no sign of an explosion in consumer spending, house prices are stabilising and manufacturing remains weak," she said.

be appointed on May 2. Commentary, page 29

The Bank's monetary policy committee begins its monthly meeting today. Economists believe that recent market turbulence will persuade the commitree to leave rates unchanged, though a rise this

year is still on the cards. Monetary data out yesterday showed consumer credit growth fell from £959 million in August to £733 million in September. But mortgage lending picked up, with housing transactions at a five-year high.

some early bidders for BZW. Analysts were hesitant about putting a value on the propos-al — Barclays has not stripped out the revenues for BZW's separate businesses. Earlier estimates for BZW as a whole ranged from £600 million to £700 million, but the busines es wanted by CSFB could be worth about £300 million.

Mr Taylor said the exclusivity agreement lasts for a week and that the BZW business contained in CSFB's proposed deal accounted for a little over half of the division's revenues and just under half of its capital. He declined to put a price tag on the deal.

the sale process was to seek a bidder for the whole business. but listen to whatever offers ed they aren't prepared to proceed with Australasia and Asia at the moment. We have left out the derivatives for a simple reason: there would be a 100 per cent overlap," said

the support operation to Barclays pending further

arrangements.
CSFB refused to comment ever, it is unlikely that the

BZW name will be kept. Jonathan Davie, deputy chairman of BZW, expressed optimism about the prospects for the deal, even though some of his fellow executives had pinned their hopes on Donaldson. Lufkin & Jenrette, the fast-growing US investment bank. DLJ dropped out of the running, along with Bankers Trust, at the weekend.

Mr Davie said: "It is a very good strategic fit. We hope we can put it together in a shape which will add value to our customers." He said he had begun informing the corporate and institutional clients of both banks. Staff will be told of the proposed deal this morning.

HUGH OSMOND is expected

to step down as an executive di-

rector of PizzaExpress to con-

centrate on running Grovebase

Properties, his new company.

which yesterday announced the

purchase of 845 tenanted pubs

The pubs are part of the 1,720-

strong Phoenix Inns portfolio

acquired from Immrepreneur in

January 1995 for £249 million.

Although yesterday's sale price

was not disclosed, sources sug-

gested a figure of between £150

Mr Osmond, who with Luke

Johnson turned PizzaExpress

into one of the stock market's

star performers, said he was investing "a few million quid".

of his own money in the new venture, and would be devoting

million and £200 million.

from Nomura International.



Sir Richard Greenbury says M&S will not take on the food stores head-on, but will maintain its balance of clothing, food and household products

M&S expansion to create 5,000 jobs

MARKS & SPENCER is to create 5,000 jobs over the next three years as part of its £2.1 billion expansion programme to consolidate its position as Britain's largest retailer.

The company said yesterday that it intends to increase retail space by 33 per cent as it rolls out three of its most successful formats: town centre department stores, edge-of-town superstores and smaller food stores.

The drive will leave the retailer with 18 million sq ft of shopping space, a UK workforce of 60,000 and annual profits approaching £1.4 billion by the turn of the century. Sir Richard balance of clothing, food and household products without targeting any one area for particular expansion. He dismissed suggestions that it is planning an offensive against the food

store chains as "nonsense". He said: "We'd want our head examined to take on the supermarkets. We're very clear what our food focus is and it's not an attempt to take on the food companies head-on. We know our strengths."

His comments came as the company returned pre-tax profits of £452 million (£430 million) for the six months to September 27. Its overseas stores, 17.2 per cent, after a £7.2 million reverse from the strength of sterling. Although the results came in below City expectations, prompting analysts

to trim year-end forecasts down £30 million to £1.17 billion, the shares eased only l0p to 600p.

One analyst said: They are obvi-

ously softening the market up for a difficult 18 months, and for a difficult period of growing. The cost of expansion, even without sterling, is still rather more than people expected and this leaves a lot of questions for a company whose shares are on a ratio of 21 times earnings." However, others

e for institutions loo ing for solid UK growth stocks, making them unlikely to lose their rating. The company will spend £800

million on capital expenditure this

year, and plans to spend about £650 million the two years afterwards.

Sir Richard said that the company is now looking at expanding into Japan, now that property prices are a third of the price they were last time it considered opening there.

Earnings rose to 11.1p (10.5p) a share. An interim dividend of 3.6p (3.3p) is due to be paid on January 16.

Commentary, page 30

BUSINESS TODAY

Takya clase Yea 121.6 NORTH SEA OF

London close \$315.55 (\$314.25)

Thames lower

37p to 873p yesterday after the company said it would step up investment to tackle leakage. Interim profits rose 7 per cent to £202 million.

Eastern promise

BP will continue to invest heavily in the Far East in spite of recent market turmoil in the region, the oil company said yesterday. Up to \$400 million will be spent in South East Asia this year. Page 29, Tempus, page 30

Revenue drops charges against ex-Nissan chief

By Jason Nissé

AFTER six years of investigation, involving up to 135 in-spectors incurring millions of pounds of costs, the Inland Revenue yesterday dropped its prosecution of Octav Botnar, the former chairman of Nissan UK, for an alleged £219 million tax fraud.

The Revenue's lawyers told Worthing magistates that they had been advised by medical experts that Mr Botnar, 84. was too ill to stand trial and could die before a trial could

The move comes ahead of a Court of Appeal ruling, expected this week, as to whether Mr Botnar has to pay £68 million

much of his time to it. The

long-term aim is a flotation.

He said: "It wouldn't be fair to

pretend I can be fully execut-

ive of both." Mr Osmond, who

recently sold PizzaExpress

shares worth more than El-

million, is expected to become

Grovebase's parent company, is controlled by a small num-

ber of private investors, in-

cluding Luke Johnson. Fund-ing for the acquisition was arr-

anged by Morgan Stanley. Nomura will be left with 275

pubs from the original Phoe-

nix package, having already

sold 600 pubs piecemeal. Last

Wellington Investment,

a non-executive director.

By DOMINIC WALSH

claiming as unpaid tax on his charitable trusts. Last year Nissan UK paid the Revenue £59 million to settle tax claims totalling over £200 million.

Two former directors of Nissan UK, Michael Hunt and Frank Shannon, were jailed four years ago after being found guilty of tax

Yesterday Mr Botnar, who has been living in Switzerland since the Revenue launched its investigation in 1991, rejected the Revenue's explanation for dropping the case, saying charges should never have been brought against him.

The Revenue has known for four and a half years of the

perilous state of my health. following surgery for the re-moval of my entire stomach in 1993," said Mr Botnar. "We had asked for the warrants to be cancelled on the grounds that the Revenue applied for them and maintained them for ulterior motives, and had no intention whatsover of bring-

The Revenue investigation into Nissan UK, which had been the sole importer of Nissan cars for much of the 1970s and 1980s, was launched in June 1991 with a massive raid on the company's Worthing headquarters and the homes of senior executives involving 135 Revenue officers.

Aon signals bid in the pipeline

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent

international insurance broker, yesterday signalled a likely bid for either Willis Corroon or Sedgwick, the last two heavyweight insurance brokers in the UK.

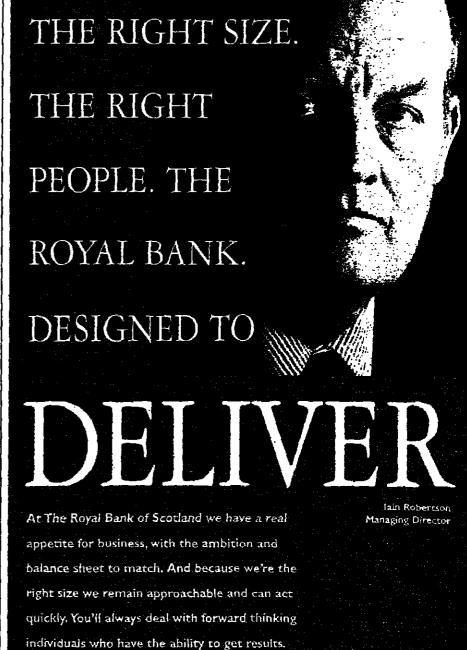
Industry sources are also expecting a move by Marsh & McLennan, the huge US broker. Both groups have made no secret of their wish for a big acquisition in the UK. Willis Corroon, which unveiled lacklustre third-quarter trading figures yesterday, is expected to be the first victim. Sources suggested that Marsh & McLennan was likely to launch a bid, although anamonth it paid El.2 billion for a lysts cited Aon as a more further 4,300 pubs from the aggressive suitor. A spokes-original innurepreneur estate:

AON, the rapidly expanding that the company was was looking for further acquisi-tions". Willis is currently capitalised at £524 million.

Although Willis insisted yesterday that it intended to remain independent, its board is under increasing pressure from institutional investors to deliver better returns. Over the past 12 months the company's share price has underperformed the FTSE All-share

index by 16 per cent. Willis blamed intense compention and the strong pound for a fall in nine-month pre-tax profit by 20 per cent to £68 million (£85.5 million).

Aon unveiled third-quarter results yesterday which show-ed a 39 per cent rise in profits to \$178 million (£106 million).



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By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

on leaks

THAMES WATER yesterday in which it gauges leakage. It pledged more action on leakage but started to square up early for a potential clash with the regulator over the next pricing review.

Thames, which is forced to report regularly to Ofwat over leakages, said it would meet new targets for 1998-99, though it said that leakage levels de-manded dipped slightly below what it thought was economic. The company is being asked to cut back leakage to 781 million litres a day from its present target of 1.08 billion. Bill Alexander chief executive said an economic level would be about 800 million litres a day. Ofwat has changed the way

> Westbury confident of demand

WESTBURY, the housebuilder, said demand for new homes remained strong despite successive increases in interest rates. Yesterday the company reported a rise in first-half pre-tax profits to £13.5 million from £9.7 million, with a 10 per cent increase in the average selling price to E83,600 during the period. Geoffrey Maddrell, chairman, said: "Demand

for new homes remains strong, with affordability at an historically high level despite interest rate rises." Earnings rose to 10.3p (7.4p) a share; the dividend for the six months to Au-

gust 31, 10 per cent up to

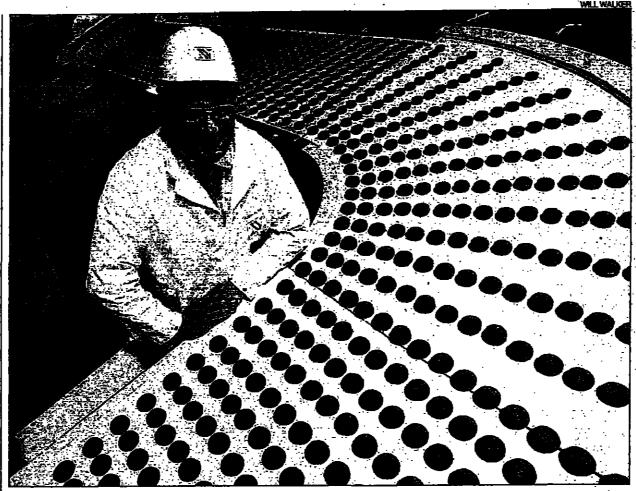
2.365p, is due on January 5.

does not measure leakage rates, making improvements and comparisons between companies less easy to gauge When it last compiled such figures, for 1995-96. Thames had the worst record at 38 per cent. The company declined to say what its rate was now but said there had been a 10 per cent improvement in the six

months to September 30. Thames fired a warning at Ian Byatt, the regulator, over his plans for a one-off price cut in the review set for 2000. While the company said it did not object to a one-off price cut which would be set with a running inflation-linked control - it said it would not accept a cut at the level currently being discussed. Mr Byatt has not set a figure yet for the one-off cut, but it is thought that he could go for a cut of about 10 per cent.

Shares in Thames fell 37p to 873p yesterday as the com-pany announced interim pretax profits of £202 million - a per cent rise on a year earlier. One analyst blamed profit-taking after a strong run, but there are also fears in the City over the amount Thames will have to spend on getting to grips with leakage. There had also been some expectation that the rise in the interim dividend might have been larger than the 11.6 per cent that Thames delivered. Thames will pay 12.5p a share on February 3.

The company could be poised to inject about £20 million back into the business as its spending on the restructuring programme outlined in 1995-96 runs short of the £95 million that it earmarked for the exercise. It will decide by the end of the year.



executive of Northumbrian Fine Foods, the manufacturer of biscuits and cakes,

September 30. Earnings were 0.83p a substantial increase in Christmas orders. Share (0.67p) and the interim dividend is Despite a competitive market further doubled to 0.1p a share. The company growth in the full year is expected.

said the second half had started with a substantial increase in Christmas orders.

Beckett wins investment role

BY PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR has backed Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, in a Whitehall row over which government department carries out a key role in channelling inward investment in Britain from foreign-owned

By Raymond Snoddy

MEDIA EDITOR

DIGITAL terrestrial tele-

vision (DTT) in the UK moved

a step closer yesterday as

manufacturers were invited to

tender for contracts to supply

set-top box decoders and at the

same time industry-wide

companies. The Prime Minister's decision marks a significant victory for Mrs Beckett in a protracted inter-departmental Whitehall turf war.

Supporters of John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, were keen on his Department of Transport, Environment and the Regions taking on the responsibility for guiding key

Set-top decoder bids invited

specifications were agreed for

the technology.

The developments should

help to ensure that at least 30

DTT channels can be launched by the end of next

year - channels that can be

received with a conventional

television aerial and without

the need for satellite dishes or

inward investor companies from the US, Japan, Korea, Germany and elsewhere towards setting up in particular regions of Britain.

Mr Prescott will publish a White Paper on regional development next month proposing the establishment of new Regional Development Agencies and his supporters want-

cable connections. British Dig-

ital Broadcasting, the main commercial DTT operator,

yesterday called on manufac-

turers to tender for a "substan-

tial" initial order for the

decoders needed to receive the

pictures. The initial order is

likely to be worth about £250

unveiled

as Celsis

cuts losses

By Paul Durman

CELSIS INTERNATIONAL

the contamination testing

company that is close to profit, has developed a simple.

colour-based test for checking

hygiene standards in restaurants and the home.

Celsis is refusing to discuss the nature of sureWIPE, its

product, while it awaits patent

protection. However, Arthur Holden, chief executive, believes sureWIPE offers Celsis exciting opportunities to devel-

op new markets in restaurants

He said the product is cheaper, much easier to use

and offers equal performance to systemSURE, the compa-ny's portable monitor. Celsis

hopes to launch sureWIPE next summer, extending it to

Celsis said it was "moving

rapidly towards profitability.

Results for the six months to

September 30 showed pre-tax

losses reduced from £2.7 million to £850,000 on sales 70 per cent higher at £7 million.

About half the £2.9 million

growth in turnover came from

last year's acquisition of

The company has sold more than 3,150 of its instruments and expects substantial sales

growth of the reagents needed

to make them work. Reagents

offer higher margins and nine

Lumac, a rival.

consumer markets in 1999.

and the home.

decided that responsibility should remain with the Indus-trial Development Unit in Mrs Beckett's Department of Trade

and Industry — and that the role of the IDU on inward investment should be enhanced. Under present arrangements, foreign companies work initially through the IDU, which puts them in touch with local agencies, including development

ed the new regional bodies to

take over responsibility for

directing inward investment.

But the Prime Minister has

But under Mrs Beckett's new proposals representatives from all regions will now have a role inside the IDU, which will in effect play a key part in deciding to which area of the UK an investment should go. The move was announced yesterday to the Trade and

Industry Select Committee. Hygiene test | NatWest to close down

> operation RICHARD MILES BANKING CORRESPONDENT

Hong Kong

NATWEST embarked on an overhaul of its investment banking operation yesterday by announcing the closure of its debt business in Hong Kong with the loss of 55 jobs. A spokeswoman for Nat-West Markets said the remaining 50 employees based in Hong Kong would be transferred to Tokyo or Singapore, where its global debt business will be relocated

over the next three to five months. "Our clients have been informed of the restructuring which will allow us to focus our presence outside Hong Kong," she said, adding that it was not possible to put a figure on the cost of the

reorganisation. NatWest Markets' withdrawal of its debt business from Hong Kong — it retains an equities business there — is the result of an ongoing strategic review begun in April when Chip Kruger took the helm at the investment bank.

an unsolicited offer for its equities business from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. The bank said DMG's offer, reportedly £150 million for a business valued by City analysts at £300 million, was not in the interests of shareholders.

Bupa wants £3bn of VAT spent on NHS

THE biggest medical insurer in the UK has called on the Government to use £3 billion of revenue raised via VAT to help to fund the National Health Service. Bupa said yesterday that ringfencing a proportion of VAT revenues and investing it in hospitals and healthcare would be the equivalent of spending an extra 0.5 per cent of gross domestic

product on the NHS. The call came from Sir Terence English, chief medical adviser to Bupa and a former President of the Royal College of Surgeons. at a debate on public healthcare in London. Sir Terence added: "An increase in funding of the NHS should be accompanied by a policy of educating the public as to what might reasonably be expected from it. No country will ever be rich enough to afford all that medical science is capable of providing."

His call came as health insurers revealed that demand for

private medical insurance policies has been flat since the general election, and a number of older policyholders had not renewed their insurance after the removal of tax relief on medical insurance for the over 60s. The tax relief, which was scrapped in Gordon Brown's first Budget, was costing the Exchequer £140 million a year.

Abbey jobs for Belfast

ABBEY NATIONAL is to create 438 jobs in Belfast by investing £5.4 million in a new software centre and the development of its telephone centre in the Province. The Industrial Development Corporation is putting up £3.3 million towards the cost of the two projects by offering "selective financial assistance" to Abbey National. The bank intends to spend £1.3 million to set up a financial software and development centre, providing about 100 jobs, mostly at

Rolls wins £127m order

ar East

ROLLS-ROYCE is to supply Trent engines for up to 19 Air Canada aircraft in a deal worth about US\$213 million (£127 million) initially. The engines will power the nine Airbus A330-300 airliners that Air Canada agreed to buy in August. The airline has options on ten more of the aircraft. If it takes up these options, the engine deal could be worth \$450 million to Rolls-Royce, which beat off competition from GE and Pratt & Whitney to secure the contract. Air Canada is the fourteenth Trent engine customer.

Powerscreen ahead

POWERSCREEN INTERNATIONAL, the engineer, has reported a 16 per cent rise in its pre-tax profits for the six months to September 30, as sales growth in North America, the UK and the Irish Republic made up for a fall in turnover in continental Europe. The profits of £23.6 million included about £500,000 contributed by the Doggett business, bought earlier this year. Turnover was up 13 per cent, to £17 million. An interim dividend of 3.1p (2.8p) is to be paid on February

Hays pays £17m for DEI

HAYS, the business services group, has acquired DEI Group, a document management company serving govern-ment departments and the corporate sector, for £17 million. DEI earned operating profits of £1.4 million in 1996. At the year end net assets were £1.7 million and net debt was £1.3 million. Hays, which has its headquarters in Guildford, Surrey, has spent more than £100 million on acquisitions in recent weeks; including the £65 million purchase of ICS, a

Cookson sells Anzon

COOKSON GROUP, the UK industrial materials company, has sold its US antimony products business to Great Lakes Chemical Corp for \$90 million (£53.45 million). Anzon, which was part of Cookson's plastics division, makes fire retardant additives for the plastics industry and has operations in the UK, US, Mexico and South Africa. Cookson said the disposal makes a pre-tax profit of £20 million. The company's gearing will fall to about 25 per cent. The sale takes Cookson out of the plastic additives business altogether.

Sales surge for Adidas

ADIDAS, the German manufacturer of sports goods, lifted net profits 38.7 per cent to DM449 million (£155 million) in the first nine months of 1997, helped by a strong advance in sales in North America. Group sales rose 42.3 per cent to DM5.284 billion. Sales in North America rose 58 per cent to DM1.258 billion. Sales in Europe, which remains the company's principal market, rose 31 per cent to DM3.359 billion. In September, Adidas unveiled plans to buy Salomon, the French winter sports equipment group. French winter sports equipment group.

Sims rises after shake-up

SIMS FOOD GROUP, the supplier of meat products to the food services sector that is emerging from a period of extensive restructuring, lifted pre-tax profits to £1.04 million from £710,000 in the six months to September. Turnover from continuing operations rose to £22.7 million from £18.1 million. After the disposal of Sims's retail business borrowings were reduced by £128 million in the first half. Earnings were 2.1p (1.7p) a share. There is again no interim dividend but a final dividend may be paid.

Meyer expands tool hire

MEYER INTERNATIONAL is to acquire 22 tool hire and catering equipment hire branches from Torex to further expand the specialist tool hire business of its Jewson subsidiary in the South West of England. The Torex branches had 1996 sales of £6.1 million and earned profits of £865,000 before interest and tax. Last month Meyer announced the E318 million acquisition of the Harcros chain of builders' merchants from Harrisons & Crostield, to be part-funded

Cadbury cuts US jobs in new cola-war manoeuvre

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

CADBURY SCHWEPPES is restructuring its US operations to protect ambitious targets for profit growth and to win back market share from Coca-Cola and Pepsi.

Dr Pepper/Seven Up Inc. Cadbury's biggest operating division, is shedding more than 100 head office staff to cut costs. The IO per cent cut will not affect the marketing and advertising departments. which are at the heart of the cola wars, a spokesman said. Sales of Dr Pepper, Seven

Up. Schweppes and other Cad-

bury brands have been slip-

increased its market share. The success of the head office cost-cutting and a Seven Up relaunch may determine the fate of John Sunderland, the Cadbury chief executive. He has promised the City to-

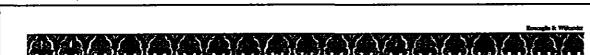
increase profits by at least 10 per cent a year. Cadbury acquired Dr Pepper/Seven Up two years ago for £1.6 billion in the hope of rivalling Coke and Peosi in their home market. However, it has failed to exceed a market

share of 15 per cent, with sales

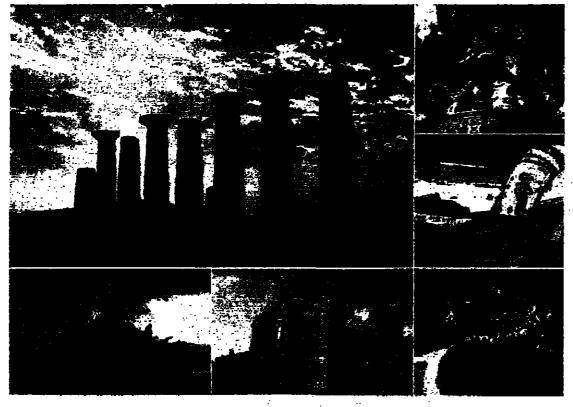
Sprite, a direct competitor, has market growing at 3 per cent. The average American drinks 900 cans of soft drink a year, 43 per cent of them Coke brands and 31 per cent Pepsi brands. Rivalry between drinks companies has intensi-fied recently. To regain the initiative in the cola war, Cadbury has relaunched its Seven Up drink after making its taste closer to Coke's sourer and more successful Sprite.

Cadbury, unlike Coke and Pepsi, owns no US bottling plants. Analysts believe that it will be forced to buy bottlers.

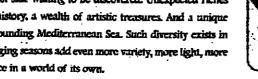




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frisson of excitement to the publication of Marks & Spencer's figures. Yesterday, he was in cracking form, lambasting those who did not fully appre-ciate the M&S achievements or might not have fully understood the group's ambitions. The scale of neither should be under-estimated. Sir Richard's

tendency to interpret any criticism of the company as a personal slight tends to encourage a touch the fact is that his relating but the fact is that his reign at M&S has been remarkable. Profits have doubled since he took over as chairman six years ago and now, in terms of its return on sales, the company beats any international rival.

Retaining that position in a hugely competitive market is tough, but M&S is succeeding. If mitial reaction to its 5 per cent profits growth was disappointment, it was more due to unreasonable expectations than a rational appreciation of how the company had coped. And if Sir Richard had hoped for a whoop of surprise and a boost to the shares because of his expansion programme, then he would have done better to have kept them under wraps for a great unveiling rather than let them seep into the weekend press.

Nonetheless, the plans do de-serve applause. They mean that

St Michael heads for promised land

three years from now, a quarter of the group's floorspace will be outside the UK, well on the way to qualifying the company for the fashionable designation of being a "global" operator. And while M&S is adamant that it has plenty of scope to grow in the UK, the pace of growth can only be maintained into the future if new markets are broached.

That may mean new formats as well as new territories. Do not forget that M&S discovered financial services long before the supermarkets did. It took its time, but can now book a £100 million profit from that sector. The new catalogue business will also develop gradually, but has long-term potential to bring in

new customers. Sir Richard intends to see that potential realised. Now 61, he is intent on staying firmly at the helm of M&S until he reaches 65. Those City scribblers who have pondered on who will succeed him are apparently to be left to ponder, for he sees no need to clarify the position yetawhile.

Suggestions that he might become a non-executive chair-man always seemed to defy the nature of the beast, so there is no need for the appointment of a chief executive to work alongside



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

him. Sir Richard's decision to stay in office until he is 65 seems to militate against Keith Oates, his current deputy, stepping into his shoes.

The competition now must concentrate on the younger generation of M&S directors. Insiders say that Peter Salsbury, the joint managing director whose raft of responsibilities range from property to person-nel, may eventually be given St Michael's blessing.

It's politics, stupid

f the British Government was ever in any doubt about I the intensely political nature of the EMU endgame, then yesterday's decision by the French Government to put for-ward its own candidate for Governor of the European Central Bank should shatter any illusions. Gordon Brown talked

only last week about taking a constructive" approach to a single currency and making vital decisions on the basis of sound economics. The French have duly responded with a strong dose of structive real-politik.

The French Government is desperate to derail the campaign to install Wim Duisenberg, cur-rent head of the European Monetary institute, as the first Central Bank Governor. Mr Duisenberg has the virtues of being popular and respected in the markets and is acceptable to the vast majority of European Union members. But as far as the French are concerned he is too close to the Germans for comfort — after all, anyone who wins the Germanbased "European Banker of the year award" must be suspect.

After giving in to the Germans over the siting of the ECB in Frankfurt and the establishment of a stability pact, Gallic pride cannot countenance any further loss of influence. The French are

frightened that under Mr Duisenberg the ECB will be-come a model of the Bundesbank under German domination.

France's chosen candidate, Jean-Claude Trichet, Governor of the Bank of France, is also well respected in the markets but is highly unlikely to prove acceptable to German public opinion. The suspicion is that M Trichet, who is no great ally of President Chirac, is merely a decoy candidate designed to stop Duisenberg. When deadlock en-sues, the French will suddenly pull a compromise candidate out of their chapeau. Step forward Michel Camdesssus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, who has a vast wealth of experience running major international organisations and whose stock is high due to the IMFs very public involvement in South East Asia. In French eyes, he also has the ultimate virtue of being French. Alternatively, the French may be

trying to extract some other pol-

icy concession from the Ger-mans. France has made no secret

of its desire to see greater political control over the ECB. What-

ever the ultimate plan, it is going to be a tough and exciting battle

before a final decision on the ECB Governor is reached next

May. But Gordon Brown should

Today was marked down in

money-watchers' diaries three months ago as a big

meeting of the Bank of England's

new monetary committee. In

August, the Bank put base rates

up a quarter point to 7 per cent but added riders. It reckoned this

last adjustment of a series was enough to get inflation back on

also intended to leave rates

unchanged until it pored over the economic tea-leaves again. That meant the next quarterly Inflation Report, which should now

be at hand. All too often, how-

ever, decisive moments marked

up by the markets in advance

turn out to have no great signifi-

Barring earthquakes, the Bank

target on the facts at the time.

take note - economics it isn't.

Eddie can afford

to be steady

looks to be a case in point.
In three months, the exchange In three months, the exchange rate has dipped 3 per cent but buoyancy has left the stock market even if the FTSE 100 index is little changed. Money is still expanding too fast but retail sales have stalled, maybe due to the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, maybe not. Interest rates are up a shade in Germany, whose redicing the Benk made to whose policies the Bank seeks to parallel, but not yet in the US.

cance when they arrive. This

Three months of new information has not, on the whole, added much to the wisdom of those responsible for setting UK in-terest rates. So the sensible course seems to be to take no action after the meeting finishes tomorrow. One thing is certain: any change would surprise the financial markets. That might bring out the devil in some committee members, but surely not in steady Eddie George.

Swiss timing

JUST a week more nail biting to go down at Canary Wharf then. Vell, not quite. In macho mood, Barclays has now set a timetable for CSFB to complete the BZW deal. But what happens if, having looked a little more closely, CSFB decides that, perhaps, it is not that keen after all? All over the City, bankers are gloating over the predicament that Barclays finds itself in, but they are silent on what the bank should do if the CSFB deal fails.

Far East crisis fails to disrupt BP's strategy

BY CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH PETROLEUM is to continue to invest heavily in the Far East in spite of recent market turmoil in the region, the oil company said yesterday as it unveiled an II per cent rise in third-quarter profits.

The company will spend up to \$400 million in South-East Asia this year and has plans to expand a polyethylene plant in Indonesia, in spite of that country's financial crisis.

BP has petrochemicals interests in China, Malaysia and Korea. John Browne, chief executive, said that the company's Far East interests were secure. "Our present. reading is that the stock market turmoil will not affect demand." he said. BP's third-quarter replace

ment cost profit came in near the top end of expectations at £691 million (£650 million) thanks to a strong performance from the downstream chemicals and refining and marketing businesses. Mr Browne said that BP had already exceeded its target of \$300 million in performance improvements for the year, with a \$450 million gain in hand. BP expects to have achieved, by the end of the year, more than \$1 billion of its \$1.5 billion programme of performance enhancements. and Mr Browne promised that



John Browne, chief executive, saw BP lift profits 11 per cent

new targets would be set in the £761 million to £674 million.

cent in the 28 weeks to Septem-

ber 13, from £6.6 million to £5.5 million, mainly because

of a El.2 million VAT adjust-

ment. Turnover rose slightly

from £32 million to £33.8

million, while earnings per

will be paid on January 5.

Effects of a 3 per cent decline BPs upstream oil and gas business suffered from a fall in oil output and a \$2 fall in the oil price were only partly in oil production, leaving third-quarter exploration and offset by higher gas produc-tion. Delay in bringing on stream the Foinaven field, production profits down from

BP some 40,000 barrels per

day of lost production. Mr Browne said that BP would, over the next 12 months. bring on stream ten oil and gas fields, capable of boosting production by 400,000 barrels of oil and gas equivalent per day. He said that capital expendi-ture was rising and would increase debt from the current \$6 billion to nearer \$7 billion. "Our view is that competition is on the march everywhere," he

BP's refining and marketing result was up 82 per cent on the previous year to £265 million for the quarter, with significant gains from the BP/Mobil joint venture and higher refining margins in the US: Mr Browne predicted that BP would achieve post-tax gains of \$200 million from the joint venture by the end of the year. Overall volumes were up 10 per cent worldwide, but BP still cannot sell the Lavera refinery in France. The company expects the French strikes to affect deliveries by the end of the week.

Chemicals profits rose from E130 million to £137 million because of higher volumes; capacity additions helped to boost production 11 per cent. The quarterly dividend is

maintained at 5.5p per share.

Tempus, page 30

Researcher runs TV test in Canada

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

TAYLOR NELSON AGB, the UK's largest market research group, is returning to the North American television rating measuring market a decade after the first effort by the old AGB business

ended in financial disaster. The UK company has been in talks with NBC, the US network company, which is interested in seeing competition developing to A C Neilsen, the dominant US

television ratings operator. This time, a move into North America is being made cautiously with a pilot scheme in the Vancouver area. Taylor Nelson is urging NBC to extend this to Seattle, across the US border, which

Brokers bypass volatile Sets

By RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

CITY brokers are bypassing Sets, the Stock Exchange's new order-driven share trading system, in favour of conventional trading over the telephone.

Amid extreme volatility in the market, brokers are using Sets for less than 40 per cent of trades in FTSE 100 shares. On Monday that figure fell to just

33 per cent. Brokers have been deterred in part from using Sets be-cause of a series of technical difficulties, such as unusually wide spreads on share prices, particularly at the opening of trade, and low liquidity.

A Stock Exchange spokes-woman, however, said it was happy with the level of trades going through the order book. She said the exchange never of business, but declined to put a figure on its target ceiling. Yesterday the exchange lifted the threshold for an automatic ten-minute suspension of a share from a 10 per cent difference in bid and offer prices to 20 per cent. It said the change had been made "in the

light of experience". Traders said the jury was still out on Sets, particularly given the volatility of markets. Martin Lupton, of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson's equities division, said: "It's only been working for two-and-a-half weeks so it's too early to call. Give it three months, then see

if the spreads are still wide."

David Smith, co-head of equities trading at Merrill Lynch, said wide spreads in the lower reaches of the FTSE 100 were a fair reflection of the way business has always been done in these stocks. The yellow strip was a bit of an

illusion," he said.

Tradepoint deals soar to £361.9m

By ADAM JONES

MONTHLY trading figures released by Tradepoint, the electronic market set up to do battle with the London Stock Exchange, suggest a significant increase in the number of share trades in October.

The total traded value claimed by the company soared from £98.8 million to £361.9 million, it was announced yesterday. However, a Tradepoint

spokeswoman said the figure includes reports of trades through interdealer brokers. who act as middlemen between market-makers.

These bring in substantially less revenue since the loss making Tradepoint cut charges on October 20.

The spokeswoman would not say how many there were to have grown significantly in | number.

on the hard sell

By Chris Ayres

HARD-UP students are being targeted by Betterware, the door-to-door housewares retailer, to become part-time distributors, a job traditionally associated with housewives and pensioners.

The company, which is launching a major recruitment drive on university campuses, says low levels of unemployment have made recruitment difficult, and that students struggling to make ends meetare ideal candidates.

Peter Hartley, Betterware's managing director, said: "Students want to earn money during term time and will work for two to three hours a day, earning £40 to £50 a week. Obviously they also have to do the odd bit of

study." Pre-tax profits fell 17.4 per

Real-life lessons | Braas family close to a bid for RBB

BY PAUL DURMAN

THE minority shareholders in Redland Braas Building are close to making an offer for the roofing business, Lebman Brothers, their advisers, said last night.

RBB holds the key to the

fate of Redland, the building share fell from 4.2p to 3.5p. An interim dividend of 1.05p (lp) materials company that is struggling to defeat a £1.67 Betterware said it would billion offer from Lafarge, the continue to develop joint ven-French cement and concrete group. Helga Bruhn-Braas, the Braas family's representa-tive on Redland's board, retures with Avon, the door-todoor beauty products retailer, especially in the Far East and signed yesterday to con-centrate on preparing the bid Eastern Europe. It shrugged off the threat of Internet

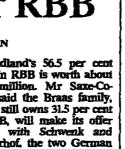
shopping as a problem for at Kyril Saxe-Coburg at Leh-man Brothers said: "It's immileast five years. Betterware attributed a disappointing performance on nent. There are still a few customers objecting to catamoving parts. We are obviously logues immediately after the spending 24 hours a day on this to make sure we get there."

City estimates have suggestdeath of Diana. Princess of

ed Redland's 56.5 per cent stake in RBB is worth about E800 million. Mr Saxe-Coburg said the Braas family, which still owns 31.5 per cent of RBB, will make its offer jointly with Schwenk and Dyckerhof, the two German cement companies that own the remaining 12 per cent of

> Rudolph Agnew, Redland chairman, is willing to sell any or all of the company's businesses to extract a better deal for shareholders.

of interest prevented her from signing Redland's defence document last week. Under the terms of the RBB deal, the Braas family can match any offer for the business should Redland want to sell. Redland shares fell 5½p to 329½p.



Mrs Bruhn-Braas's conflict

Mature taste lifts Dairy Crest

By DOMINIC WALSH

DAIRY CREST, the former processing arm of the old Milk Marketing Board, is reaping the benefits of a growing consumer taste for more mature cheddar cheese. John Houliston, chief execu-tive, said the UK's mature and farmhouse cheddar sector was worth more than £500 million, having risen 5 per cent in the

first half of the year. Dairy Crest, which came to the stock market just over a year ago, has a 35 per cent market share through its Davidstow and Cathedral City brands, which sell at



between £6.50 and £8 a kilo- That performance helped the gram, compared with about group to push up pre-tax for mild cheddar.

Cathedral City's volumes £18.7 million, from turnover 3

were up almost a third in the per cent better at £392 million. half year to September 30 its consumer foods division,

which includes Clover dairy spread, reported a 14 per cent rise in operating profit to £14.7 million, while food services dipped from £6.4 million to £5.4 million, reflecting the effect of the strong pound on ingredients markets. Competition meant milk

despite volume growth of 8 per cent, although lower costs meant profits rose in the declining doorstep market. Barnings per share rose to 11.8p (10.5p) and an interim dividend of 3.5p (3.26p) will be paid on January 22.





Broker's top ten rating sets Next shares jumping

THE best performer among the top 100 companies was Next, after leading City commentators predicted a revival in the fortunes of the high street retailer.

The price rebounded 47p to 734p on turnover of almost 2.7 million shares after Morean Stanley decided to include Next in its list of top ten buys. Word is that it has also been included in a US broker's buy list. This is likely to encourage a fresh wave of institutional support.

At the same time, other brokers such as Dresdner Kleinwort Benson were urg-ing clients to switch out of Marks & Spencer, down 10p at 600p, and into Next. This followed yesterday's disappointing interim results and in spite of a pledge by M&S to spend £2.1 billion on a major

expansion programme. Next had suffered a setback on Monday after Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, cast doubts over the group's earnings potential during 1997. Recent figures also disappointed the market, with like-for-like sales during August showing only modest improvement.

The rest of the equity market spent a lacklustre session. choosing to dwell on the overnight setback for the Hang Seng of 474 points. The 232-point surge in the Dow Jones industrial average was ignored with investors, instead, bracing themselves for opening falls when New York

resumed trading last night.
As a result, the FTSE 100 index endured a 51-point turnaround to close 9.0 down at 4,897.4. Trading was again thin, with just 739 million changing hands.

There are signs that the speculators are starting to get cold feet in Redland, currently the subject of a 320p a share offer from Lafarge, the French group. The price has been as high as 340p, with the speculators pinning their hopes on a counter-bid. Last night the price slipped 412p to 32912p and now stands just 9'2p The Redland board may be hard-pressed to improve on the deal already on the table.

That overnight hiccup for the Hang Seng in Hong Kong again hit those companies with close connections to the Far East. HSBC tumbled 59p to £14.93, Standard Chartered was down 12p at 656p



Shares in Rank, owner of Hard Rock Cafe, firmed 134p

at 473p. Even Siebe was 17p down at £11.66, reflecting its exposure to Asia, along with

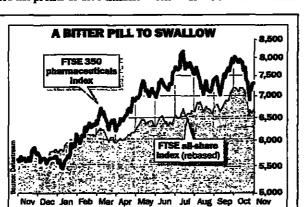
Unilever, 312p off at 45lp. Engineering slipped 112 to 16312p as a party of brokers began a tour of the group's US operations.

Whitbread was a nervous market, slipping 15p to 790p ahead of half-year figures later today. Brokers are looking for pre-tax profits of £196 million

compared with £178 million last time.

British Airways, also re-porting today, fell 12¹2p to 576p. Interim pre-tax profits are expected to come out at £273 million, down from £459 million last time because of industrial action.

Cadbury Schweppes shrugged off reports claiming the group is about to axe 10 per cent of its soft drinks



INVESTORS are becoming increasingly choosey about which stocks to buy - even when it comes to blue chips. Yesterday saw a case in point, with Zeneca ending 43p lower, at £18.52, after a meeting with ABN Amro Hoare Govett on Monday, The broker is re-puted to have cut its target price from £17 to £15.50. By contrast, Glaxo Wellcome

rose Z/p, to £13.07, after SBC Warburg, the broker, told clients to "add" to their Kevin Scotcher, of Nat-West Securities, is not sur-prised. He says: "If you

look back to the beginning of the year, Glaxo and SmithKline Beecham have both outperformed Zeneca. In fact, Zeneca has badly

underperformed." In these circumstances, it is not the best policy for investors to adopt blanket coverage. "In a sector which has reached its all-time high and has since come off, currently standing 9 per cent below its relative high, you have to learn to stock pick," says

Mr Scotcher. That necessity, he says, becomes more acute during periods of volatility.

the 110 jobs will go in Dallas at the headquarters of its Seven-Up and Dr Pepper drinks business, which has come under fierce competition from Coca-Cola and Pepsi. The shares rose 4p to 595p. A "buy" recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing lifted United Assurance 1112p to 502p.

The appointment of Kevin Hand as chief executive of Emap was warmly received in the City, with the shares marked up 1314p at 87212p. Only last week, Reed Elsevier put IPC, its magazine publishing business, up for sale. The 50-strong title group could be worth up to £300 million. Reed International rose 24p to 605p on the back of some sitive comments from UBS. the broker.

Rank Group firmed 134p to 336p as the company began a two-day tour of its leisure activities with a party of brokers. They will visit Butlins, Hard Rock Cafe and

the bingo operations.

Holmes Place proved it was no slouch at the start of firsttime dealings. The health and fitness centres group saw its shares placed at 128p, with the price opening at 14712p. It closed at its best of the day with a rise of 42p at 170p on turnover of 3.4 million shares. News of a bid approach lifted Wellman, the thermal engineer and garage operator,

63 p to 37p. A warning about the outcome for the year as a whole left Betterware nursing a fall of 11n at 88n.

☐ GILT-ÉDGED: Prices traded in narrow limits for much of the session before closing mixed. Investor sentiment remained preoccupied with tomorrow's decision on

interest rates.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished three ticks better at £11812 after trading in limits of £118516 and £118916. The total number of contracts completed reached 72,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 put on seven ticks at while in shorts Tre sury 7 per cent 2002 shed £132

at £101¹4.

□ NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks were lower after a ket sought a footing in the wake of the previous day's big run-up and Hong Kong's overnight drop. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 13.50 lower at 7,660.89.

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Sun Life & Prov	382p (+17p)
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French Conn	375p (+10p)
Natt Express	571 sp (+14p)
Boots	887p (+20p)
FALLS:	
Hutch Whamp	413¼ (-32p)
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Marks Spencer

658p (-12p) 600p (-10p)

Easy to swallow sentation. Aon Corporation: 200p to accept an offer from Aon in the range is a picture of a snake of 130p to 135p. However, there is little sign

its portfolio, it is in gas,

where it is missing out on the

high prices currently fetched

by the fuel in the US market.

Lowever, the gas price is

highly volatile and BP is building up its exposure

The big question for BP is

whether its projects will en-

cent return that it currently.

NOT JUST SELF-HELP

showed investors a picture of a snake digesting an elephant. This image, presumably taken from Saint-Exupery, was supposed to represent the broker's ability to absorb recent acquisitions — in particular, Alexander & Alexander. But the real message, Aon said. was that "The snake is still hungry".

. The next elephant on the corporate menu could well be Willis Corroon, the UK broker that has long been under pressure from institutions to merge with its rival Sedgwick. Shareholders have become weary of waiting for Willis to deliver earnings growth. They are unlikely to be satisfied by the prospect of savings from more expensive redundancies.

With the share price currently at 124p, there would be some resistance amongst shareholders who bought Willis shares at 175p or even

that earnings in the UK broking sector are likely to bounce in the short-term. US brokers are ahead of the UK in the art of cost-cutting and upgrading computer systems. Quick to undercut rivals in defence of their market share, this is turn sends commission rates

The Willis board, committed to continued independence, has pinned its hopes on an upturn in trading conditions. Over the past 12 months there has been precious little evidence that ratings and margins are about to improve. Willis and Sedgwick are too small to compete on a global scale and too big to exploit niche markets. A bid may come before the end of the year and investors might as well hang on. But no one should chase this stock.

earns on capital. Planned

share buybacks will flatter

that number, but sharehold-

ers who back BP have the

comfort of knowing that it is

more committed to share-

holder value than some in

the industry. Investment in

oil and gas is booming, but

ism could save it from the

inevitable disasters to come.

BP

BP's continuing use of the phrase "self-help" to describe its performance improvents may be just a touch self-congramiatory. Of the \$1 billion achieved so far, the company admits that 20 per cent relates to cost savings and the remainder to volume. Yet, no one will complain if BP is producing more oil and finding a market for it. The astonishing story of the oil industry in recent years has been the way in which demand has grown to match the exponential increase in supply. The shake out in fin-ancial markets has left the oil price untroubled and there

BP is no longer a costcutting story, but a business that needs to be judged on its ment bets. If there is a gap in

feel like the cat who got the

cream. Launched at 155p in

are few signs that energy demand is faltering. resources into premium Dairy Crest cheese, spreads and fresh ANY farmer still holding dairy products. Talks over shares in Dairy Crest must the acquisition of Unigate's

September 1996 (just as the but size is not the inhibitor; with gearing just 18 per cent, lapsing) the shares have been Dairy Crest could accommorising ever since, and yesterdate a deal. Assuming profits of £41 million, Dairy Crest is valued on 10.7 times carnings. A day's solid interim figures pushed them another op higher to 2792 p. The farmers still have 60 marked discount to the food per cent of the stock, but sector, but with the shares should they hang on in what still relatively illiquid, they

cheese business appear to

have foundered over price,

is undoubtedly a tough mar-, are a hold rather than a buy. ket? The doorstep pinta is an endangered species, account-Emap ing for less than a third of all A SAFE pair of hands, is how milk sold. And even in the multiple retail sector, where the succession at Emap is competition and the buying power of the big supermarket chains combined to cancel marked Emap's shares up as soon as the news came out Anyone who was suprised by

been paying attention to Emap over the past year. The route was cleared for the Francophile and urbane Hand with almost Byzantine

intrigue. The dynamic duo who spent 20 years building the group up - Robin Miller and David Arculus - seemed to fall out as the succession issue reared its ugly head, prompting Arculus's departure to United taking Tony Tillin, who ran the business publishing side, with him. This cleared the way for

Hand to rise to the too. But what are we to make of Miller's transition to non-executive director. Pirc, the pensions consultants that attacked Emap about its succession problems last year, will not recognise him as independent. The temptation to interfere in the running of the business could be overwhelming.

It may be time to take profits



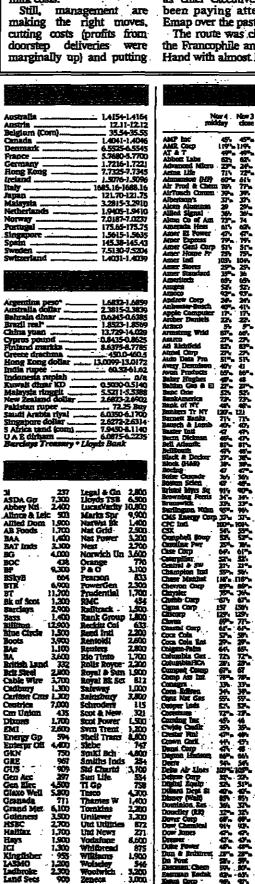
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EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

A t the heart of the Euro-constellation, shortly to be renamed EMU, yawns a black hole, threatening to suck in any economy which strays into its gravity field. The black hole is called insolvency.

This may, at first sight seem an outrageous statement. Surely, only Third World governments get into such dire straits. Surely insolvency couldn't arise in the heart of Europe? Unfortunately, it could, and all too easily. Sovereign defaults have never so far been a serious threat in the industrial world, not so much because of levels of economic development or supposedly greater fiscal responsi-bility. Rather, it is because most of the borrowing by Western governments has been denominated in their own domestic currencies. In contrast, Third World nations are often forced to borrow in foreign currency because their domestic capital markets are thin - and in

The black hole at the heart of Europe

and because importers often insist

on payment in "hard currency". Default among countries with largely domestic debts is virtually impossible because the government simply prints more money. Those who finance themselves through foreign debt don't have that option. Now apply this to economic and Central Bank in Frankfurt will have the sole prerogative of print-ing euros. So EMU will reduce all its member governments to the status of local authorities as far as

their borrowing is concerned. All government borrowing will effectively be in foreign currency and the threat of default will hang over every member to a greater or

Laurence Copeland says economic and monetary union

sets a poverty trap and poses the threat of insolvency

high debt levels and a history of fiscal irresponsibility will have low credit ratings and pay high rates of interest on their loans. More responsible governments will enjoy the benefits of the finest borrowing rates. Despite these variations in perceived credit quality, European interest rates have converged dramatically. Italian bonds are scarcerisker than those of Germany. The reason is not a suspension of the reality of market forces but

If an insolvent New York City was able to find a saviour even in the free market heyday of Reagan's presidency, the capital markets are betting that the European authorities will be forced to come to the aid of Italy or Spain, let alone France or Germany, if they are in distress. The pressure to bail out a country with a weak economy - or a weak will — is bound to prove irresistible. Suppose Prance suffered a funding crisis: imagine the consequences i Frankfurt ignored French pleas for funds. The air would be thick with the smell of bad blood from old wounds reopened. Ultimately, a

prevent the EU breaking up amid mutual recriminations or worse. The "no bail-out" clause written into the Maastricht treaty with such a situation in mind would prove as expendable as the convergence criteria as economics were tossed aside for political expediency.

All this would be irrelevant if there was no danger that some in the EMU-zone might allow their fiscal affairs to deteriorate to the point of insolvency. But it cannot be ruled out. The almost ubiquitous

their fiscal houses genuinely in order. Only Luxembourg will satisfy the Maastricht borrowing condi-tions without cooking the books. The predicament of Belgium and Italy is probably beyond the help of statistical massage.

In the run-up to spring 1998 when

those fit to join the euro will be chosen, aspiring members had to behave like boxers trying to make the weight for a hig fight, with spending cuts and tax increases sold to voters on the implicit or even explicit promise of a post-match blow-out. After 1998, they will revert to the psychology of any sad heavyweight, willpower sapped by the lack of deadline, reliant only on self-discipline.

their belts with EMU as the prize. what hope is there when the prize has already been won? These are the sort of considerations that motivated the stability pact, the patently unworkable German proposal for a system of fines on profligate EMU members. The idea of some kind of European traffic cop pinning fiscal speeding tickets on offending governments strains credulity. EMU is already unpopular without telling voters that it involves sacrificing national automony in fiscal as well as monetary policy.

If the stability pact proves un-workable, as it almost certainly will, EMU members will face a stark choice: either to overspend, or to finance the overspending of the other member indefinitely. This is less a case of moral hazard, more like Europe's national poverty trap.

Laurence Copeland is Professor of Finance at Cardiff Business School. Janet Bush is on holiday.

people — and at the same time

see and hear what each other is

doing. The more expensive

systems have much more impressive quality, although they

use more telephone lines, thus

raising call costs even further.

However, for international

meetings especially, the money

and time saved by using video

conferencing can be enor-

mous. Cameras can be panned

in and out, and separate fixed

units can be used to show

close-ups of, say, a microchip.

about the practical applica-

look at Mercedes Benz, the

German carmaker. Because

many Mercedes dealerships

are small, they cannot afford to

hire their own advisers to sell

the company's financial ser-

vices products. Instead,

Mercedes has hired a team of

advisers who work from a

national video conferencing

centre, where they deal with

about 50 customers a day.

only E5,000 on a BT video-

phone — a compact screen and

phone in one unit - to give

their customers immediate ac-

cedes customers and boosting

the company's high-tech im-

age. Nissan, another car man-

ufacturer, also uses video

conferencing to hold meetings

cess to the com-

pany's top finan-

cial sales team.

Mercedes says it

has seen a 25 per

cent rise in finan-

sales since in-

stalling the

equipment. It

has the added

benefit of im-

pressing Mer-

Those who are sceptical

How the video

conference

keeps business

in the picture

Prices are falling as telecoms groups aim

for increased usage. Chris Ayres reports

ideo conferencing could

yet become the corporate status symbol of the

1990s, a decade behind the

mobile phone — now as likely to be used by brickies as stock-

brokers. Although the equipment involved is still rather

clumsy and expensive, manu-

facturers are currently cutting

prices to boost interest in the

In Britain 10,000 businesses

are estimated to use video conferencing technology, with

more than 250,000 companies

using videophones worldwide.

Telephone companies confi-

dently predict that within two

years videophones will become

The term video conferencing

was invented to make what is

sound like an important busi-

ness tool. Marketing gurus

would argue that the term

videophone carries with it a

rather cheap and nasty 1970s

sci-fi image. Companies such

stand to make a fortune if the

technology catches on - want

customers to think business,

not Barbarella. The battle to

well as in the office. Prices for

PC systems have fallen from

computer documents as some-

one else — or several other

gain control of

the video confer-

encing market is

moving at a fran-

tic pace, with

technology now

cheap enough for people with

under £1,000 of

spare cash to

consider install-

ing it in their

own homes, as

as common as fax machines.

echnology.

One way or another, the end is nigh for Britain's shopping boom

The forecasts

from Marks & Spencer may be

bullish, but

Douglas

McWilliams says the retail

party is over

n the immediate after-math of the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, I pointed out that there would be a negative impact on retail sales for September. In the event, the 1.9 per cent drop was twice as large as can be attributed solely to what I termed the "Diana effect".

Does this mean that Britain's retailing bonanza is com-

ing to an end? Retail sales growth has been boosted in the past two years by a potent mixture of rising real incomes, falling unemployment, tax cuts, low interest rates and building society windfalls. At the same time, the virtual disappearance of negative equity in the housing market, a booming stock marlast and diminishing job inse-brity have boosted consumer confidence.

Before the September drop, retail sales were running 10 per cent higher than two years earlier. This is about twice the pace of growth that is sustainable in the long term. The choice, therefore, is between an Eighties-style continuation of the boom until it causes an inflation-driven bust, or a soft landing, with the consumer's spending impulses being

moderated at an early stage. My instinct is that moderation will prevail this time. The windfall bonanza has ended and is unlikely to be repeated on anything like the same scale. During 1997, consumers received £30 billion from windfalls, about 5 per cent of their disposable incomes. Although, as most economists predicted, only about a quarter of this will have been spent during the year, this is still enough to add more than I per

cent to consumer spending. The shape of the economic cycle has been especially fav-ourable to disposable incomes in 1997. Prices have been held down by the strength of sterling, while wages and salaries



Shoppers have been out in force this year and a bumper Christmas season is forecast. However, restraint is likely to be the order of the day in early 1998

— unless the pound rises further — the higher exchange rate is a one-off whose effects on inflation wear off after a

year or so. Another reason for expecting consumer spending growth to slow is politics. With Tony Blair now master of all that he surveys, it is easy to forget that economic policy for most of the 1996-97 period was dominated by a Conservative government trying to win re-election. Taxes were cut by the November Budgets of both 1995 and 1996, and Kenneth Clarke avoided raising interest rates in early 1997 against the advice of most economic experts, including

the Bank of England. Post election, the position has changed. Interest rates are now set by the politically independent Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England and have been raised four times since the election. If the stock market turmoil of the past week causes the committee to stay its hand at its meeting tomorrow, it remains clear that further increases are

on the cards. The Government's singleminded attitude towards reelection means that we are likely to be spared the swinge-ing tax increases imposed by

The combination of the end of windfalls with the swing in the political cycle and slower growth in disposable income means that the consumer boom will have ended by mid-1998. The question of greatest importance to retailers is how soon the boom will unwind. Shelves are being filled for a bumper Christmas spending season this year. If the boom

The tool of economic analysis is insufficiently precise to answer this question with certainty. The critical factor will be consumer confidence. Stock market volatility is bad for confidence, especially for senior management and those working in the City. However, barring meltdown, the remaining influences on confidence are positive. House prices have

Littlewoods failed to thrive in the retail boom, and Marks & Spencer is buying some sites

have edged up as skill short—tions. However, taxes and ends early, this stock will have ages have emerged. These charges will probably edge to be cleared in the January positive equity, rather than negative, has become relevant. Job insecurity remains, but is much less a worry now than when the economy was weak and unemployment was high. The election has resolved polit-

ical uncertainties. On balance, therefore, it looks as if a bumper Christmas spending season is in prospect. If this happens, the spending slowdown will start in January. The volume of

travel abroad.

Douglas McWilliams is chief

the strength of demand merely determines how low prices have to be cut in order to move the unsold stock. If Christmas sales are high, expect only modest price cuts in January,

with sales volumes falling. It is worth noting that the effects of the end of the consumer spending boom will be differentiated between sectors. Consumer durables, and especially cars, have been particularly affected by windfalls, and sales may even fall in 1998. The travel industry may fare better because sterling's strength is reducing the cost of

about £2,500 two years ago to under £700 today for BT's Perhaps the most buoyant consumer sector for 1998 is likely to be the leisure sector. The slower growth in spend-ing power will do little to hold back the trend for British people to spend more in restaurants, bars, clubs and sports centres.

However, if spending in the high street and shopping centres does not slow down early in 1998, it is a racing certainty that interest rates will be raised to ensure that the bubble is burst later in the year.

executive of the Centre for Economics and Business Research Ltd.

DVS100. For that price, customers get a card for their PC, between European sites, and made more than 1,500 calls last a camera to put on top of it and will also need an ISDN tele-Video conferencing also allows companies or individuals phone line, costing about £200, which essentially allows the to work effectively without having to be based in Central videophone to use two lines simultaneously for greater London Attinger Jack Adverquality. Unfortunately for the tising, an agency in Dorset, says video conferencing allows it to compete with multinationcustomer — but great news for telephone companies — this has the side effect of doubling al agencies in London. The company says it can dramatically cut the presentathe cost of calls. The quality of picture and sound on these systems is still tion time for new campaigns fairly poor, but good enough to be useful. Slower computers will give the user the appear-

Some users

look like badly

dubbed actors

in a kung-fu

movie

by using the technology to show video, text and graphics to clients. They can work on campaigns, budgets and schedules without having to ance of a badly dubbed actor in a pirated Japanese kung-fu movie. To get some kind of quality yardstick, customers should think of the BBC's live travel to London, saving both time and travelling expenses.

The future of video conferbroadcasts — which use up to 1,000 telephone lines simultaencing will ultimately depend neously — compared with the two used by a £700 PC system. Video conferencing allows users to work on the same

on how willing people are to conduct all their business from the same office. For the technology to work, calls must be cheaper than travelling. People's offices will also have to have a great view.

Hurn pay

SIR ROGER HURN put Smiths Industries on the map as a business worth E27 billion. Yet in November Hurn, who had been chairman and Frief executive, brought in Keith Butler-Wheelhouse as chief executive and heir apparent. And he has since been busy elsewhere, what with interviewing at Stanhope Gate for a next job as chairman of GEC and engineering the departure of Sean Lance at Glaxo Wellcome, where he is deputy chairman.



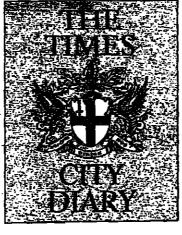
We're in luck, M&S is planning to open a branch here soon

responsibilities at Smiths does not seem to be reflected in salaries. The accounts just out show that Butler-Wheelhouse pulled in £702,000 all told. For nine months work, Hurn's total pay actually rose by £19,000, to £719,000. Annualise this, and you find that the job that one man did for £700,000 one year, two men were paid £1.6 million to do the next. Smiths people mutter about "a handover year". But it does not exactly look like value for money.

● IS THIS the easiest job on the Euro-gravy train? I have an invitation from Brussels to some awful conference on tourism this week, signed by Fernand Boden, styled "minister for middle classes and tourism of the Grand Duchy of Locembourg". A state whose 147 inhabitants are all resolutely middle class and which no one would want to visit anyway.

Just 'deserts'

SINCE we are being beastly to foreigners, I see our French chums are up to their old tricks again. No. not closing down every road in France, although I remember a true story from the last stoppage told to me by a British transport firm. Apparently,



the French police would helpfully take over the blockading trucks and look after them whenever the drivers wanted to go off for a three-hour lunch. Anyway. This week is the oc-casion of the latest International Trade Fair in Baghdad, whose ruler

is again trying our patience. For the first time since the Gulf War, Western firms are there. The British and Americans are not welcome. But there are a few Germans, who did not fight in the war, and a scattering of Italians, who did. The French, our gallant co-belligerents, have turned out in droves. They have taken an entire pavilion, with 40 companies in oil, food, and pharmacerticals. Serve them right if the place blows up again and Saddam uses them as a human shield.

ا الامار الامار)

 SOME unkind souls in the Liberty camp have been challenging the cre-dentials of Odile Griffith, the charming corporate financier who is advising the Stewart-Liberty family in their spat with the store's management. No mention of her name was found in a recent trawi of the Securi-ties and Futures Authority. Has she been practising the black arts without a licence, some ask? Let me put the record straight. Until last Friday Griffith, although an independent, was employed by NatWest and so registered through them. Now she has shaken off the shackles and runs RKR Corporate Finance, her own business. And from Monday has been registered personally with the SFA. If it's any of your business.

Namespotting

AN ANNOUNCEMENT of an acc ounting marriage catches my eye. Buchler Philips Traynor is merging with Begbies — Begbie? Wasn't that the man in Trainspotting played by Robert Cartyle who kept hitting people? We'll let it pass — to create ... Begbies Traynor. So gone are the name of Buchler and Philips. We will never hear them in open court again. Like we did that day in July when Buchler Philips, along with Nabarro Nathanson, were castigated by Mr Justice Ferris for their conduct in the Maxwell receivership.

His honour put it thus, did he not?

"Having in this way done my best to set out the figures objectively, I cannot escape saying that I find them profoundly shocking. If the amounts claimed are allowed in full this receivership will have produced substantial rewards for the receivers and their lawyers and nothing at all for creditors of the estate." Funnily enough, several other people I know also associate Buchler Philips with that shameful court case. And now the name will disappear, to be replaced with that of a fictional Scottish psychopath. Which some might regard as an improvement.





Robert Carlyle, who was Begbie in the hit film Trainspotting



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` ;	NBIEY KATICHAL I 1140 275 8500 1840 NK Gowen	UNIT TRUST MORS (TD)	Deposit Fond 91.00 91.29† + 0.01 8.23 Honocontr Fond 98.33 104.59 + 0.12 2.66 Collection Fond 169.55 180.60 + 0.75 1.74	Sign Yard 25.82 25.76† + 0.01 7.17	-40-Atomic 122.60 131.601 - 3.60 1.62 Hit American 125.00	18338 + 0.80 4.01 12850 + 0.50 0.35 102907 - 0.80 4.26 13270 + 3.00 0.09 15880 - 1.30	MORTHEFAX ROCK LIMP THUST LTD 0191 285 2555 High Instance 6 55.47 58.70† + 0.13 5.80 185 Grands 123.10 140.60 2.58	SAVE & PROSPER GROUP Cliests: 0800 828 100 Brokering, 0800 727 770	SUN LIFE OF CAMADA UT MISRS LTD 0800 525 725 Ann Pacific 16.62 17.90 - 0.25 2.16
	Spoly Income # Spol Strome # Spoler Cas rist Selection	106.20 115.10 - 0.10 2.02 152.60 162.30 2.55 294.90 312.60 + 620 6.47 103.90 1105.21 + 0.10 2.89 125.20 132.10 + 0.20 1.38	COMMISSION UNIT TST MISMT COLUTO	Global Boxel 22:57 28:58 - 0.07 5.11 Innunational Funds	LALIFRENCE 105501 UNIT 1781/5T MISSINT 1771 4977 18986 1892 1892 1892 1892 1892 1892 1892 1892	57.80 - 0.45 93.39 + 0.73 0.49 153.501 + 1.70 0.44 148.701 - 0.20 2.50 70.861 + 0.11 1.75 32.77 - 0.12 0.50 75.877 + 0.65 0.80	MORNMON LIMEDH TST MANAGERS	Amer Sain Cos 184.70 195.00 + 1 90 Cach Cach Cach Cach Cach Cach Cach Cach	Comp Rd Carrier 103 38 189 99 - 0 14 6 56
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٠ {	Projecty UR Jenerging Cast UK George Page Warld Past of	901/3 95-25 . 1,35 70133 75-389 0.36 0.91	0127 690 370 Empoom hr: 80.18 85.07 + 0.34 0.37 Februsha M 110.50 (25.007 + 0.10 1.16 Norme d 244.50 25.20 + 0.10 4.02 -40-fector d 87.00 854.50 + 0.10 4.02 Smiller Cot 28.00 25.170 + 0.59 0.73	Cash Tent 125.00 153.00 + 0.02 6.55 blampat Spuly 207.79 207.79 - 0.07 153 (cmg from Sat 205.50 225.50) + 0.07 2.55 (cmg from Sat 205.50 225.50) + 0.07 2.75 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 225.50) + 0.07 2.77 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 283.20 - 0.02 2.50 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 181.00 + 0.02 2.10 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 191.00 (cmg from Sat 205.50) 1		,		Keesa 24.88 26.471 + 1.68 Lasto America 48.00 51.06 + 2.31 0.26 . Massinshard 71.99 72.35 + 0.46 0.94	Manage Estat Inches # 38,44 40,647 - 0.07 6.28
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The Engineering Council requires an Assistant Secretary for our busy Director General's office, to work with the Director General's Personal Secretary.

The applicant will need fast accurate word processing skills, preferably Word for Windows including Powerpoint and Excel, and good administrative skills. Shorthand would be an advantage.

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Please send vour curriculum vitae and covering letter to:

Joanne Perkins, Personnel Administrator Engineering Council, 10 Maltravers Street, London, WC2R 3ER. Closing Date:

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Piccadily London W1V 9HF.

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High-powered Chief Executive, Head of Nursing Home Group will appreciate your 90th/50wp - MS Word, Excel, Powerpoint skills but more importantly your organisational shillty, your command of English and your ability to charm the birds out of the trees! With all of these qualities you will be well able to keep up with this female dynamo of a boss.

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225,000 + Benefits

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0171 814 0800 Angela Mortimer



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All positions will be based in our new office at Great Some therefore candidates must be able to drive and have their

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PERMANENT

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£20,000

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£28,000 international company? Do you have self-motivation, a good business mind, excellent IT skills and a professional, confident manner? This prind, excellent IT skills and a professional, conductin manner: the will be "your own job". most of the work will be generated by yourself, however, you will be an Assistant to the MD-helping with some personal projects. You'll need 50 wpm reping and a good level of nameracy (& have used a computerised accounts system) and any languages will be useful, especially Genman. The office is informal and relaxed and the role could develop significantly if you've got the property of the profession of the property of the profession and the profession of the profess

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c£18,000

Start as PA to these three fun guys and watch, listen and learn secause they want you to get involved in the whole process so you can step in and do it yourself one day! There'll be a lot of ecople contact as you can imagine, both candidates and clients so your commonner, counts an and professionation is the account key! The office is young, lively and busy so you must thrive on activity and enjoy a social buzz. If you've got 2 yrs or more PA experience and one of your skills is to run your boss's life to a lee, then you are what they need (50wpm typing and good



SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE A Professional PA

c£20,000 + pens + 23 days hols, car parking This Director, who's very new to this company, is looking for a speech PA twith great socretarial skills, 80 skill and 50 typing) to join him and help run his small team. This international organisation, with links to the USA, are successful and thriving and above all it will be your professionalism, board level experience and polished manner with clients that will gain you this position. You'll need good knowledge of Powerpoint, W4W and some Excel at the put together presentations, however, there's little typing (about 30%) and most of your time will be spent lissing with investors, bankers and senior executives. If you're over 30yes and you'd like to hear more, call us eight away.

MAINE-TUCKER

Have a ball in belgravia..... c£21,000 + discreet bonus, stl

This very smart, upstacket company, with stunning offices in SW1, are looking for a lovely PA to work on a one-to-one basis with a Senior Director. If you want a secure role where you'll be working with the most exclusive clients and providing a caring, professional service for them and you'd enjoy working for a boss who 'll appreciate you, then this could be for you! All you'll need is good typing (50wpm) and a lively enthosiastic personality (ideally 30s,40s or 50s but all ages are welcome!) and any legal experience would be an advantage. Call us now for a lovely role in this charming friendly company.

New Directions

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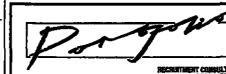
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IF you ever create slides for a presentation you will often want to print copies for those attending, either to take away or so they can make notes.

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Unless you want to invest in an expensive colour laser or use a colour inkjet cheaper but much slower — you need an alternative.

In PowerPoint, there is a facility which allows you not only to preview what your slide will look like in black and white, but also to optimise the colour scheme for monochrome

Choose "View/Black and White" to turn the whole slide show into black and white. Then, if you find some of the black and white slides are, say, too dark to print well, right click on the offending item and choose one of the options — light grayscale is a good first choice.

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Any changes you make in this way will not affect your colour, onscreen

CHRIS WARD

Start at the top and work up

and it seems this is all down to hard work, intelligence and skill.
Judged Yellow Pages PA of the year, she has not only landed top secretarial jobs throughout her career, but when she was unable to re-cruit good secretaries for a company she worked for she took a two-year City and

Guilds course to become a

lecturer in the secretarial skills

she was looking for.

Miss Parr, 41, says she entered for PA of the year with no thought of even getting on the shortlist, let alone win-ning. She had been egged on by her boss, Peter Hehir, chairman of the public relations consultancy Country-wide Porter Novelli, who calls her a world-class personal assistant. His official reward

for supporting her is a luxury weekend break for two. She has certainly revolutionised the secretarial role in the company. "The word secretary is not used here," Ms Parr says. Those who work on a one-to-one basis with their boss are called PAs and those working as part of a client handling team are communi-

da Parr is just too Ada Parr built on

her first-class office skills to

MacDonald

become PA of the year, says Susan

"Before I joined there was a regular secretarial lunch, but I thought this was not good enough," she says. So in order to promote and support their work she set up a PA network called Pals (personal assistants' learning support) which covers Countrywide Porter Novelli's six offices, including

"We share best practice on a daily basis and I have written a training manual for all support staff, setting out what is expected and detailing the different areas of expertise, such as telephone technique and client handling. We all learn about these areas, even if they are not part of our daily work," she says.

Ms Parr was born in St Andrews and after leaving school with the Scottish equiv-

A levels, gained a qualification secretarial studies with German, German shorthand, and French.

You could say she started at the top and worked her way up. Certainly her CV makes it clear that she deserves her award. Her first job, as PA to the managing director of a German hydraulics manufac-turer, lasted six years — including a year in Germany before she was head hunted to be PA to the managing direc-tor and technical translator for another German company.

"I spoke German and used German shorthand everyday in those two jobs," she says. Then came a two-year job as a chairman's assistant and another two-year job as a managing director's PA, before she decided to use the

further education qualifica-

tions she had gained. "I had contacted City and Guilds in the Seventies because I found it impossible to find people with good secretarial skills — especially

shorthand," she says. Their answer was to tell me to come and qualify as a teacher of the skills I was looking for. So I went on a training course twice a week



Ada Parr, rated world-class by her boss: being appreciated makes a big difference to a PA's attitude to work, she says

for two years." In 1939 she became a college lecturer for three years, teaching German, French, clerical procedure, secretarial studies and office administration.

She went on to be an office manager for three years before joining her present company last year. Now, she says, she is trying to ensure that she keeps her French up to scratch by using it consistently in her dealings with the Brussels

office. Alongside this concentrated career she found time to marry and has a daughter, now aged 23.
Along with her title goes a

list of speaking engagements, including an appearance at next year's Crême de la Crême exhibition in London, and prizes such as a Caribbean holiday for two and a training course at The Industrial Society. She has decided to donate her Industrial Society course to her company's Pals network "so that we can all benefit from

Ms Parr says that American colleagues have been surprised by her award, saying that there is no equivalent in America. So she is working with them to try to form a group in America to promote such an award.

Her advice to budding PAs is to get their basic skills up to such a high standard that they

never have to worry about them, and can feel free to get on with developing their confi-

dence and career. "You need to be willing to work hard and long hours, but you can get a terrific buzz from being part of things, and if you are appreciated it makes a big difference to your whole atti tude to work.

"And don't forget," she says.
"you work with a boss, not for a boss."

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Joseph Connolly previews some curiosities on offer at all prices from Britain's specialist book dealers at this week's gathering in London

Children's books are espe-

cially popular when Christ-

mas looms. Surrey dealer

Elizabeth Gant is showing a good selection of all the favourites — Beatrix Potter,

Arthur Rackham, Florence

Upton and others. Particularly

attractive are three original

pen drawings by Edward Ardizzone for The Eleanor Farjeon Book of 1966 at £800

to £900 each. For car lovers,

the same dealer has a range of

Louis Wain's books - an

Most desirable

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be a hitherto unrec-

orded item - a very

good copy of Louis

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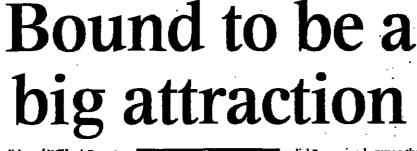
🖜 o many dedicated book lovers, Guy Fawles Day means just one thing: the Cheisea book fair is two day's away, offering its customary selection of literary fireworks with not a damp squib among

More than 80 dealers will be unpacking a range of delights at this informal book fair. Prices peak at £20,000, though they start as low as £10.

At the top end of the market, there is an offering from London dealer Simon Finch that isn't a book at all, but one of just 30 pressings made of James Joyce's only recording of a section of Ulysses. It was recorded in France in 1924 for Sylvia Beach of the legendary Paris bookshop Shakespeare and Company. Only seven other copies are known to survive intact — hence the £20,000 tag.

A literary landmark from another age is offered by Henry Sotheran of Sackville Street: a folio two-volume first edition of Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language (1755). It is a very good copy, rebound in period style full calf and a highly desirable item at £8.750.

G & D Marrin and Sons the Folkestone dealer specialising in books on the First World War — was founded 50 years ago by the present owner's late father, George, himself a veteran of Yores and the Somme. One of the most attractive items on offer is a

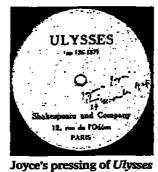


Poems (1920) in original cloth and with an introduction by Siegfried Sassoon (£425).

A range of World War One books includes a military map of northern Gallipoli, printed in Egypt in 1915, for £150. Even more fascinating is a military manual of the same date: Battalion Drill for £25.

S. K. Biltcliffe is a particu larly interesting London dealer, specialising in 19th-century industry and life generally. He boasts a a huge range so let me select R. Baskervill's Illustrated Catalogue of Fountain Designs (not dated, £200); the charm of this book

lies in the 29 woodcuts that depict the extraordinary patterns made by the swirling of water in all sorts of corkscrew configurations. I was also American publication of 1884 entitled Arsenic as a Domes tic Poison (£485). containing genuine examples of wallpa-



per and children's school writing paper — all of which used arsenic in their manufacture.



A signed photo of Queen Victoria, priced £1,500

M & D REEVE CHILDREN'S BOOKS

children's books, is also offering a very good selection. concentrating on fairy tales and illustrations.

Altogether different is a magnificent volume of 1773 entitled A Voyage to the South Seas in His Majesty's Ship The Endeavour. This contains 27 fine engraved plates by Sydney Parkinson, recording the botany, and native chiefs encountered on Captain Cook's voyage: £4,950 from Bernard Shapero.

ophie Dupré has amassed an extraordinary collection of 250 items relating to the Windsors — originally intended to form a companion piece to Sotheby's now postponed sale of artefacts from the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's Bois de Boulogne residence. The range includes some superb photographs of the Duke as King, as well as signed pictures of both the Duke and

The range and quality at this year's fair is as good as ever. There is everything from the sublime to the downright quirky. An example of the latter could possibly be a pamphlet of 1946 available from Garwood & Voigt at just £18: Camp Cooking for Boy Scouts - not to be missed.

■ The Chelsea book fair is at Cheisea Old Town Hall, King's Road, London SW3 on Friday November 7, 2pm-8pm and Sat-



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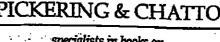
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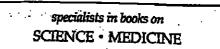


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STAND 29

Stand 68

A pas de trois at Covent Garden?

Chris Smith has ignited the biggest arts row for years. The Culture Secretary's proposal, floated out of the blue on Monday, is that English National Opera abandons the

Coliseum and shares Covent Garden with the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet when that theatre reopens after its redevelopment. All three companies are in grave financial difficulties. But is such a radical plan

desirable, or even feasible? Rodney Milnes and Debra Craine, The Times's opera and dance critics; assess the implications, while Richard Morrison outlines the political risks

one of Sir Richard Eyre's

experience has agreed to be-

come associated with all this

nonsense and can only hope

that after due consideration he throws it back at Smith, or

at whichever civil servant

significant word in the press release - language. ENO has always performed in the lan-

guage of the audience, some-

thing that composers have

taken for granted since opera

was "invented" 400 years ago.

And there is also little mention

of management; would ENO's

values be safe in the hands of

any of the current Covent

There has been too much

gleeful anticipation of redun-

dancies, of throwing in the bin

hundreds of highly skilled

craftsmen who over the past 50

years have led to London

being recognised as one of the

leading operatic centres in the

world - and they started from virtually nothing. But that is the philistine UK all over: see

something we do well, and

Chris Smith has been quoted as describing himself

as "a realist". I can think of a

number of other names, of which "pragmatist" is one of the more polite. He is certainly

a procrastinator: shove the

decision-making on to some-

one else and wait for six

Admittedly he has a prob-lem. The sensible provision of

opera in the capital would

involve one 2,000-seat house

another of 1,200 for ENO. If he

can only "afford" one, then the

latter is the only option. But he

is stuck with the irreversible

lottery grant to the ROH, and has to put something in it. Except that he could turn it

into a dance hall, a feat

previously achieved by one

There is no mention of one

dreamt it up.

Garden bosses?

here are several mind-boggling as-pects to Monday's announcement by Chris Smith. It is more than just ironic, it is blackly tragic that the spokesman for a political party retaining the word "Labour" in its name, the party of Jennie Lee under whose guidance the provision of arts and education for the people of the UK reached new heights, should be proposing the reduction of artistic activity in the nation's capital. Smith cites as excuse a crisis, a crisis caused by ten years and more of Arts Council laisser faire inactivity in the face of Treasury intransigence which the present Government is too wet to challenge.

Smith says the nation can no longer afford two opera houses, which is hogwash: the nation could if the Government had any political will, or any vision beyond acquiring power and maintaining it by fawning on the tabloid media and blandly surrendering to the cultural values they promote. Paris has four opera houses, Berlin three, Munich two. Under new Labour's inspired leadership, is London to be reduced to the status

Make no mistake, what this is about is the disbandment of English National Opera. The very idea that the company and the values it upholds would survive when sharing a theatre — and an established audience — wholly unsuited to its activities is, again, laughable. If London cannot afford two opera companies, then the one to go is the Royal, recently taken over by a carpetbagger of all its ills (the Arts Council), playing to a tiny elite audience (80,000 tops) at prices that exclude all save the rich and the committed fans, and of no social relevance whatever.

The age-old, socially OK buzz-word "touring" is raised, but it is far cheaper to bring audiences to opera via the proper provision of matinees

the Royal Opera itself). Chris

Smith's letter to Sir Richard

take into account the effect of

Ballet. The Culture Secretary,

At first glance his plan,

RODNEY MILNES than it is to take opera on within the Opera House orgs usual when the Royal Opera House anisation, the ballet company would now find itself sharing is the subject of heated debate, the ballet a house with not one but two opera companies. If it was barely gets a mention. In all difficult for the ballet to get its the news coverage that folfair share before, it would be lowed Chris Smith's anwell nigh impossible under the nouncement, hardly a thought was spared for the poor old Smith scenario. Royal Ballet, Britain's premier

Adolf Hitler.

dance company and resident at Covent Garden for half a century (longer, in fact, than Eyre, setting out the terms of the review, doesn't seem to his proposals on the Royal like just about everyone else. clearly sees this as an opera should it go ahead, is bad news for the Royal Ballet. Already struggling to achieve parity with the Royal Opera





Room at Covent Garden for all sorts? Lesley Garrett (left) epitomises the ENO style in Die Fledermaus, while Darcey Bussell shows the Royal Ballet at its finest in Amores

DANCE

Squeezed into third place by two rival opera companies, the ballet would inevitably find itself with fewer performances, reduced rehearsal time and a battle for limited resources at an overworked opera house. It wouldn't be long before serious artistic compromises would have to be made. Given that part of the reason for the Opera House's massive redevelopment is to accommodate more dance performances and more dance programmes - in other words to allow dance to realise its full potential in the new house this would seem to be a

betrayal of all the promises made to the Royal Ballet. But look a little closer and another sequence of events presents itself, one in which the Royal Ballet could find itself king of a different castle. That castle is the Coliseum, current home of English National Opera. The Culture Secretary has suggested that once ENO moves out, the Coliseum could be sold or rented out. One can sympathise with his new Labour desire to save taxpayers' money, but is he

really prepared to throw away

this theatrical gem? For here is

a golden opportunity to secure

the future of large-scale dance in London: let the Royal Ballet

move to the Coliseum. As everyone in the dance world knows, the old lady of St Martin's Lane is a superlative

dance venue, with wonderful sightlines and a beautiful large stage. The kind of classical extravaganzas offered by the Royal Ballet would look splendid on its stage (as the company will discover next July when it presents its summer season there). And, as Dance Umbrella proved earlier this year with its Mark Morris season, large-scale contemporary dance is emi-nently saleable at the 2,350-seat Coliseum.

While ENO and the Royal Opera grab the lion's share of Garden, the Royal Ballet could take its big productions to the Coliseum. It could share the house with English National Ballet - which already enjoys Christmas seasons there and would dearly love to expand its Coliseum presence - and there would still be room for visiting foreign companies.

With the country's two largest companies performing in a Coliseum designated as a dance house, the provision for large-scale dance in the capital would, at long last, be secured.

There will be those resistant to the idea of taking the ballet out of Covent Garden and some will no doubt fight to keep it there. But if the Government really does foresee a future in which Covent Garden is London's only opera house, the only hope for dance is to find its own home.

If Sir Richard Eyre is going to take his brief seriously and he undoubtedly will - he must be prepared to fit dance into the equation. The provi-sion of large-scale dance in London is an issue which has been talked about for years. Here is a chance to turn all that talk into action.

DEBRA CRAINE taxpayers' money; and to

hris Smith badly needed to pull a rabbit out of the hat Perhaps this star-

tling ménage à trois at the Garden will be it. His first six months as Culture Secretary have been undistinguished, to put it mildly. He was wrongfooted, and then just plain wrong, when he en-dorsed Mary Allen's hasty appointment to the Royal Onera House. He huffed and puffed to humiliatingly little effect over Camelot's "fat cat" directors. He watched helpless as the Millennium Dome was

removed from his portfolio.

And all the while the managerial disarray and elitist ethos of Covent Garden - the country's most highly-subsidised arts institution mocked two of new Labour's most cherished commitments: to be prudent stewards of

POLITICS

make the arts accessible to ordinary people.

So the timing of his announcement - just before he was grilled by Gerald Kaufman - had a whiff of political expediency to it. So did the decision to wrap the proposal in a "review" by the saintly Sir Richard Eyre. Indeed, some feel that Eyre would be one of the few personalities capable of holding together an allembracing" Covent Garden.

Nevertheless, Smith's strategy is full of risks. Irrespective what conclusion Eyre reaches, the Culture Secretary has clearly signalled his views London's operatic and dance life. Now he must face the wrath of Covent Garden's rich benefactors, the unions (who will suspect, probably correctly, that many jobs could

be shed by two opera com-panies sharing the same house), and the ardent supporters of the companies and their very different performing

and marketing styles. There is one other intriguing dimension. What has been the role of the Arts Council this week? The answer is: it hasn't had one. The Arts Council has been completely bypassed by the Smith initiative. With a chairman on the way out, and no secretary-general at all, it irrelevant to the biggest arts

debate for decades. That shatters the "arm's length principle", intended to deter politicians from meddling directly in the running of arts organisations. Whether it also sounds the death-knell for the Arts Council itself remains

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POP: Gutsy country-rock from a reformed Texan rabble-rouser; plus pummelling French electronics

Blood, sweat and a few tears

There can be few artists currently drawing breath who have walked it and talked it like Steve Earle. A reformed heroin addict who has spent almost as much time behind bars as in them, he has so many former wives that Henry VIII must have been his marriage guidance counsellor.

But if Earle's life story sounds like every social worker's worst nightmare, his music is all the more potent for it. For one can almost taste the blood, sweat and tears shared by the characters in his songs.

More often than not they are outsiders, outlaws, outspoken. Theirs are lives that walk the high-tension line between self destruction and redemption.

Indeed, Earle himself seems to have negotiated that wire successfully. He is now apparently drink and drug-free and happily remarried, and in his spare time he is to be found lending his fervent to the



to abolish capital punishment. He has also just released his finest album to date. El Corazon most of which was written while he was on sabbatical in Ireland - and with this concert he kicked off an extensive European tour that reaches London at the end of the month.

Returning to the same venue he played last March, whence he paraded his expertise as a gritty story-telling troubadour in the tradition of his late friend and mentor Townes Van Zandt, this time the Texan-bred singer brought with him the Dukes, a fluid and highly accomplished bunch of musicians. Together they produced what turned out to be, in the end, a hugely satisfying evening of gutsy country-rock and

spine-tingling folk ballads that touched several stylistic bases, from Nashville country to Seattle grunge via Texan folk and even a smattering of bluegrass.

Admittedly it took a while for the band (Buddy Miller, guitar, Kelly Looney, bass, and new recruit Brady Blade, drums) really to get going, owing to evident opening night rustiness, combined with prolonged technical problems with guitar leads which should really have been sorted out during rehearsals and the soundcheck.

Indeed, the band's two roadies were conspicuous by their presence for much of the evening, and even seemed to revel in their

The two-and a quarter hour set produced many highlights. New songs such as Christmas in Washington and Ft Worth Blues already sound like timeless classics, while the Byrdsian chimes of If You Fall neatly slotted in with rancous live favourites like Copperhead Road and a rebel-rousing Johnny Come

But when the great Emmylou Harris stepped from the wings to duct on Goodbye, so too did the

lump in my throat. NICK KELLY crowd, eliciting whoops and frantic waving as they boost the tempo.

مددا من الاصل

Crowd pleasers

he American rock writer Greil Marcus has described Daft Punk as "the best pop group in the history of Paris - not that there's been much competition since Royer Collard and the Doctrinaires". Recently, though, the competition has intensified. The French dance scene has provided a feast of rivals, such as DJ Cam and I:Cube. Nonetheless. it is still Daft Punk who are having the greatest impact here, especially after the release this year of

their debut album Homework. For their first UK tour, which kicked off at the Cambridge Corn Exchange, they have recruited another member of the French new wave, Dimitri from Paris, to act as supporting DJ. His session blends seamlessly with Daft Punk. making the division between DJ and performer ever finer, so fine,

in fact, that the Musicians Union has at last recognised DJs as The two young Parisians Guy-Manuel de Homen Christo and Thomas Bangaltar — do not

so much make music as play the

Daft Punk Cambridge

Their show is organised around ruthlessly pared-down rhythms, each built from scraps of noise. There are no melodies or voices, no songs, just pummelling beats and truncated riffs. Daft Punk's sound is pure electronics; there is little attempt to emulate traditional instruments. It honks and

wheezes, screeches and fizzes. The two performers stand alone in the centre of the vast stage, their faces cast in shadow Around them are scattered a barrage of lighting effects, where bulbs flash and twitch restlessly. Further distraction comes from a twin screen backdrop onto which are projected images of breakdancers, of mock brand names and of swirling

This is not an event for those who want to nod gently to wellcrafted songs. It is for those who want to dance to the music of

JOHN STREET

Freedom chained

T f the few moments of profound music-making, rewarding listening and genuine flair scattered through Butch Morris's ten-CD retrospective Testament are anything to go by, the odds are that not many of his seven UK appearances will contain these ingredients. During the past 20 years, Morris has abandoned a career as a major creative force in jazz in favour of pursuing his theory of "Conduction".

Essentially this involves using a vocabulary of formal gesture to direct ensemble improvisation, using no score or prearranged material, but simply relying on the improvisatory resources of his musicians and on his own ability to shape their performance with his baton. At the heart of this idea is a paradox - how could a performance be freely improvised if it is being conducted?

In Morris's Conduction No 84. riven at the Oxford Contemporary Music Festival, his 22-piece ensemble contained a galaxy of Britain's best-known free players, but it seemed many of them were inhibited by this very paradox, the size of the ensemble suppressing the improvisatory ideas of its members. Only violinist Aleks Kolkowski and trumpeter Byron Wallen - who may have lost marks from his stony-faced colleagues for (a) movButch Morris - Oxford

ing about and (b) smiling - created lengthy enough and sufficiently shaped solo parts to emerge from the melee. Even soprano saxophonist Evan Parker, normally so resourceful on such occasions, seemed to resort to self-parody when Morris encouraged him to be heard.

The concert became an exercise in texture. Since (apart from a handful of passages spurred by Morris's downbeats) the performance was largely arrhythmic, and since so little melodic content surfaced, it could hardly be other-

There were moments when Morris conjured some sublime shadings from his ensemble, especially in his handling of the strings, making use of Zoe Martlow's cello arpeggios and Philipp Wachsmann's laconic viola glissandi. But in more than 90 minutes of music, texture alone is insufficient to hold an audience's attention, and by the last piece a third of the crowd had voted with their feet.

ALYN SHIMTON -

ROMEO AND JULIET Ray Featon and Zoe Water play the lods in love Short London run for Michael Attenborough's production before menoning to Stational
Berblean (The Pri) Sal-Street, EC2
(0171-638 8891) Opens tonight,
7 15pm Then Mon-Set, 7 15pm; mat
Thur and Sat, 2pm, Until Nov 15

THE SLOW DRAG dazz musical by Carson Kreitzer, loosely based on the story of Billy Tipton, a woman who musician, Luza Sadony joins Kim Crewell and Christopher Colquboun from Lisa Forrell's Freedom Calle (0171-369 1735), Opens tonight, 9pm Then Mon-Thur, 9pm, Fn and Sat, 7pm

LA MALADIE DE LA MORT. Robert Wilson's visually exquisite production of the Marguente Duras play, with Michel Piccoli and dancer Lucinda Childs In Piccel and cancer Cucinics of childs in French with English stratules Plant of the French Theatre Season Pascock Theatre, Portugal Street, off kungaray, WC2 (0171-494 5090). Tongith Sat, 8pm.

CHILINGIRIAN QUARTET: The CHILINGIRIAN GUARTET: The popular chamber ensemble calconates is 25th curversary with a roctal of Haydin's String Quartet in G fellowed by a world preview of a new work from Robert Sexton. For the evening's second half, the Chilingman is evening's second half, the Chilingman is quied by the Endobor Quartet in a performance of Mondels softi's Octet

Barblean, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638
8891) Tonight, 7:30pm (2)

SCHUBERT CELEBRATION: The bantone Matthias Goeme accompan by Andreas Haefiger, plane, sings a choice selection of the Austrian composer's songs inspired by Goethe's poems. A number of Hugo

☐ ART: Ron Cook, Nigel Havers and Malcolm Storry in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-

white painting Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat. 8pm; mats Wed. 3pm, Sat and Sun. 5pm. (1) THE BOYS IN THE BAND: Mart LITHE BOYS IN THE BAND: Mart Crowley's ground-breaking gay play from 1968 now something of a period piece with its "gay means withy but wretched message. Transfer from the King's Head. Islington. Addwych. The Addwych. WC2 (0171-416 6003) Aiready previewing. Opens Oct 29, 7pm Then Morr-Sal, 8pm, mals Thur and Sat, 3pm.

S A DELICATE BALANCE: Elean Alluns haunlingly chilling in welcome revival of Albee's play about marriage. parenthood and nogithousiness. Maggie Smith plays the drunk sister. Theatre Royal, Haymari-st, SW1 (0171-930 8300). Mon-Sat, Bpm; mets. Wed and Sal, Jpm (5)

AN IDEAL HUSBAND, Return of CI AN IDEAL HUSBAND, Return of Peter Hell's emjoyable production, brindu of deceptions Staming Martin Shaw and Strion Ward, and Kate O Mara as the svelle troubtemaker Gletgud, Shaftashury Ava, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm, mats Thur 3pm and Sat, 4pm,

III THE INVENTION OF LOVE: Tom Stoppard's new play with John Wood as the elderly A. E. Housman, careful to

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☐ A LETTER OF RESIGNATION. Ethand Fox of Hessianations.
Edward Fox and Clare Higgins play
Harold Macmillan and Lady Dorothy in
High Whitemore's play about the effects
of the Protumo scandal
Cosnedy Theatre. Particol Street, SWI
(171-369 1731) Mon-Sat, 745pm;
mats Wed, John and Sat, 4pm;

sury of the centurated control repositions as the difficult woman vaudewille Theatre, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, Sprin, mats Wed and Sat, Sprin, Unit December 7.

Schubert is celebrated at

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts

and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

Wolf's dramatic settings of Môrike are orfered to provide a contrast to Schubert's lyncel style Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight, 8pm (§)

BLACKPOOL: First British parformance for Seven for a Secret

European dance tomoclast, Wim Vandekayous in his new work the Belgian choreographer and his com Utime Vez explore the magic of the

never to be told by the award-winning

ELSEWHERE

Jeremy Kingston's assessm of theatre showing in Lond

(0171-928 2252) Tonghi-Sal, 7.30pm in rep (5)

evering out. Tricycle Theatre, Kitburn High Road. NW6 (0171-328 1000), Mon-Set, 8pm; mats Wed (Nov S), 2pm and Set, 4pm.

Fergusson writes and stars in this id story of the celebrated comic Hylda

☐ STEPPING OUT: Musical version of

Robertson and her hopeful hoolers Albery, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm, THEATRE GUIDE

TALES MY LOVER TOLD ME. No. musical cornedy written and directed by Chris Burgess, music by Sareh Travis, years struggling to stay mends King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-228 1916) Tue-Set, 8pm; mat Sun, 3pm

surrounding the magnic. Grand Theatre, Church Street (01253 28372) Tonghi, April (5)

EDINBURIGH: The accisimed pop opera ensemble Opera Circus enives here for two nights with its immitable

hers for two mysts wirn as inmerces bland of physical clowning and visual and aural beauty. The company's new production, Cat William's Tale, is based on Times literary editor Erus Wagner's short story. The Groat Leonardo and is set to music by Alesdair Musclison.

Traverse, Cambridge Street (0131-228 1404). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm.

GLASGOW: Only Bridgh dates for

performed by the notoricus Spanish company La Fura dels Baus. Trammery, Albert Drive, Stasgow (1)141-227 5511) Tonight-Sat, 8pm. (5)

HIST 1: Opera North's autumn tour stops here with performances of Verdi's Ade tonight and Saturday, Martinu's Julietta formanow and Mozzat's Cost for

New Theatre, Kingston Square (01482 226655) Performances at 7.15pm.

Anthony d'Offay: Ray Lichtensten (0171-499 4100) ... Berbicare Don McCutin (0171-638 8991) Brunet: The European Expenses in the Middle East in European books and watercolours (0171-637 2388 ext

2733) - Design Museum: A tour of broycle design history (0171-378 6056) . . European Academy & Accademia (tellana: Joseta de Obdos

Portugal (0171-235 0303) . Festival Hall: World Press Photo 1997 (0171-960 4242) National Holbern's Ambassadors (0171-747

LONDON GALLERIES

N WAITING FOR GODOT: Peter Hall, who directed the British premiers in 1955, directs Alan Howard and Ben Kingsley in a revived of Bechett Old Vie, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7676) Tonight, 7.30pm. In rep ☐ WOYZECK: Sarah Kane's gripping

LONG RUNNERS

□ DNG FOUNTERS

□ Blood Brothers Phoems (0171-369 1733). □ Cats. New London (0171-405 0072) □ Greene. Cambridge (0171-494 5080). □ □ Martin Guerre. Prince Edward (0171-47 5400). □ The (0171-494 5400). □ The (0171-494 5400). □ The Mousetrap. St Atam's (0171-836 1443). □ □ Otherst Paladium (0171-494 5020). □ Smokey Joe's Cafe Prince of Water (0171-839 5987). □ Startight Express Apolio Victoria (0171-416 5054). Tacket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

The incredible journey

f the word is not too strong Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) was obsessed with The Pilgrim's Progress all his life. He first wrote incidental music for a dramatisation in 1906; the work-in-progress" Shepherds of the Delectable Mountains followed in 1922; more music for a BBC radio dramatisation came in 1942. When the complete opera was performed at Covent Garden in 1951 it was on the whole scurvily received, which must have wounded the composer.

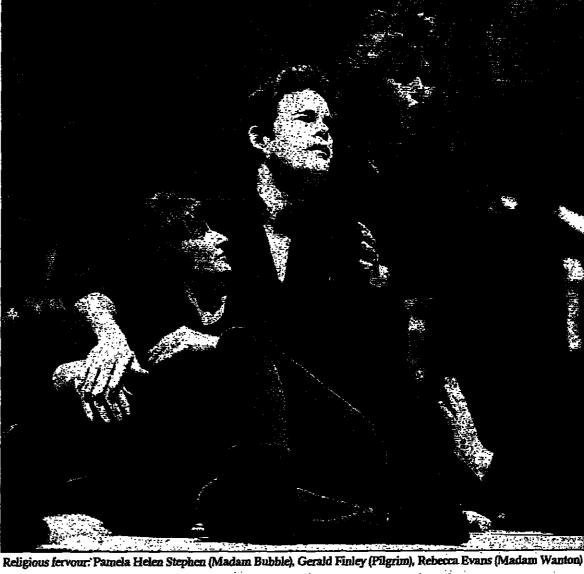
Nearly 50 years on, you can see why. One result of VW's lifelong concern was that the score could have been composed at almost any time this

Pligrim's Progress Barbican Half

century, if not before. With its harmonies seldom straying beyond the world of Hymns ASM. its unashamed. wholesome religiosity and warm, unquestioning bed of choral and orchestral triumphalism, it must have sounded antediluvian to ears growing accustomed to Britten (Billy Budd was premiered the same year), let alone to whatever was going on in Darmstadt. One can well imagine modernists sniggering behind their hands at this "cowpat" music.

But with the passing of time such out-of-synch disparity matters less. The sheer fervour of the writing and its profoundly held conviction sweep all before it, certainly through the short first two acts. Its problems as an opera - and Ernest Newman thought it belonged in a cathedral rather than an opera house — stem from a certain lack of dramatic conflict. Pilgrim doesn't have to do a lot off his own bat; when he is in trouble, there is always someone to see him through, be it an encouraging Watchful or the consoling Branch-Bearer and Cup-Bearer, and there's a Key of Promise to get him out of jail. Even threats of death carry little weight, since his whole journey is to the

Such quibbles carried equally little weight during Monday's semi-staged performance by the Royal Opera, which was simply superb. Richard Hickox conducted with as much passion and devotion as if this were some



divine conflation of Parsifal and the Verdi Requiem, and the orchestral sound alone drew you unprotesting into sharing VW's certainties. Joseph Ward's staging - a matter of platforms (Michael Holt) and light (John B. Read) gave a clear impression of what drama there is, probably clearer than in any conventional production. Gerald Finley's performance of the

title role was beyond all praise, sung with beautifully firm tone and acted without a hint of embarrassment. There were equally vivid performances from Gidon Saks (Apollyon, Hate-Good et al), and from Anne-Marie Owens and Richard Coxon as the By-Ends in the quirkily comic scene much criticised at the time, but a very necessary leavening after the Delecta-

ble Shepherds (the weakest part of the score, oddly enough). Jeremy White (Evangelist), Roderick Williams (Watchful) and Gwynne Howell (Bunyan) performed their pious dunes with tact, and the whole company went for Vanity Fair hammer and tongs. VW won, hands down.

RODNEY MILNES

AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (15): Amusingly cheeky homo comic, with Tom Everett Scott as an

Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) Plaza (5) (0930 888930) UCI Whiteleya (5) (0 (0830 888930) UCI Whiteleys 5 (0990 889990) Virgin Trocadero 5 (0131-970 6015) Warner 5 (0171-437 4343) FOOLS RUSH IN (12) Strait-bace 1 guy can't cope with mainage to a liery Mexican-American, Tiresome rom

comedy with Matthew Perry and Salma Heyel. Director, Andy Tennant. Virgin Trocadem (5) (0181-970 6015) LA. CONFIDENTIAL (18): Smashing care community use, (iii) creasing drams about compton in LA in the early 1950s, with Kevin Spacty, Plussell Crowe, Kim Basinger, Guy Pearce and Darny DeVito Director, Curtia Hanson. Barbleam (§) (0171-628 8831) Chaphem Picture House (0171-498

Claphem Picture House (0171-498 3323) Notting Hill Coronet (§) (0171-727-6705) Odeons: Camden Town (0181-375-4255) Kensington (0181-315-4214) Marble Arch (0131-315-4216) Surlos Cottage (0181-315-4220) Ritzy (0171-737-2121) Screenvirti (§) (0171-435-2366) UCI Whiteleys (§) (0990 528996) Virgins: Fullram Road (0171-779-2638) Hawmarkut (0171-839-1527) ket (0171-839 1527) 379 2636) Haymarkat (017) Warner & (0171-437 4343)

SMALLTIME (18): E-uperant comis

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol +) on release across the country

SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW SMILLA'S Flez Into For Show (15) Parish scientist of Greenlandic descent shifts out a murder mystery Mishandted treatment of interesting material. With Julie Ormond. Gabnel Byrne, Richard Harns. Director, Bitle August ABC Shattasbury Av (0171-836 6279)

CURRENT

◆ THE FULL MONTY (15)
Unemployed steekworkers strap for cash,
Souncy Bresh cornect, with Robert
Carlyle, Torn Willunson, Mark Addy.
ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772)
Shatbesbury Avenue (0171-935 9772)
Shatbesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279)
Tothenhern Court Hoad (0171-636 6148) Odeons: Kenshigden (0181-315 4216)
Mazzartine ② 10181-315 4215)
Swiss
Cotage (0181-315 4220)
Plazze ③ (0181-315 42216)
Mazzartine ② (0181-315 42216)
Mazzartine ② (0181-315 4220)
Plazze ⑤ (0181-315 4220)
Vargins: Chelsee (0171-352 5096)
Haymarket (0171-836 1520) THE FULL MONTY (15)

 A LIFE LESS ORDINARY (15). in lave. Odd mix of cornedy, fantasi Director, Danny Boyle
Tottenham Court Road (0171836 6148) Barbican (A) (0171-638 8891) Gate (A) (0171-727 4043) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeons

Screen/Bulker Street (0171-935 2772) Screen/Whiter Street (0171-935 2772) Screen/Wheen (0171-926 3520) UCI Whiteleys (0) (0990 888990) Virgins: Fulbern Road (0171-370 2635) Trocadero (0) (0171-434 0031) Warrant (0) (0171-437 4343) MA VIE EN ROSE (12) Eruberant, bout a seven year-old boy's determination to be a gri.
ABC Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470)
Claphem Picture House (0171-498 3323) Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) Richmond (0181-332 0030)

◆ THE PEACEMAKER (15): George warheads Muddled action blockbus ABCut Blaker St. (0171-935 9772) Tottenhum Ct Rd (0171-636 61-9) Empire B. (099) 882999 (Generald (0181-235 3005) Odeons: Kensing (0181-315 4214) Merbie Arch (018) 155-4216 Center Chr. (18 ss Cig (0181-315 4230 : Chelsea (0171-352 5096) ero (5) (0171-434 0031)

WILDE (15) Stephen Fry as Oscar Wilder line and bucking though the Rin is more timed than you might expect Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeox Cottage (0181-315 4230) Warner & (0171-437 4343)

Making merrier

fter its decidedly downbeat opening but with an alternate cast now firmly in place, the Royal Opera's Merry Widow has begun to pick up a little. Alas, not so the audience: at a nerformance late last week when one might at least have expected Lesley Garrett's Valencienne to have been packing them in, there were rows of empty seats in what felt like a ghost town but was in fact the Shaftesbury The-

Putting aside, if possible, the unbelievably drab production, there is now a show to be enjoyed here. Of course, Lehar's masterpiece really needs a bit of glitz, and in a West End run of 30 performances intended to draw people in. the set is the wrong place to be making economies. But the production has settled down musically, with Dierfried Bernet now conducting with greater flexibility and real Viennese feeling, and most of the cast now getting Jeremy Sams's sly translation across

with relish and clarity.

The Morry Widow Shaftesbury

Lyuba Kazarnovskaya is strong casting in the title role. Her sonrano has a slight edg and top notes are not her speciality, but she sings a seductive Vilja and you can believe in her as the spirited farmer's daughter made good. There is erotic charge in her relationship with Dale Duesing's Danilo, who makes up for a rather dry baritone with his comic timing, turning in a real performance.

Garrett's Valencienne (her Royal Opera stage debut) has she occasionally spoils things by overacting, she relishes every double entendre and makes a cheeky grisette. Donald Maxwell is excellent as the buffoonish Baron Zeta, and Vicente Ombuena's awkward Camille apart, this cast provides a good evening's entertainment.

JOHN ALLISON | piano sounds as if he had

IF, AS Barry Humphries observed, you can always pick out classical music because it "doesn't have words and goes on for a considerable length of time", he would have been hard put to classify this delightful evening.

Though there were pieces which drew their inspiration from the music of far-fluo Pacific cultures, the sound worlds never really went native. Canadian composer David Duke's ... Though Now We Sleep ... combines eloquent utterances from the solo cello improvising on Kwakiuti song fragments. with recordings of the chanting and drums. The cellist Steven Isserlis breathed life into the whispering microtonal harmonics and multistopped pizzicati with the lightest touch. But the weird nasal voices remained apart,

only reach towards a Kodalylike exoticism. The critic and composer James Helme Sutcliffe was born in China and studied in Australia, New York, Zurich, Bayreuth and Cologne, but his Avatar (1994) for cello and

OLD VIC 0171 928 7616

and Duke's gestures could

Sounds of the South

RECITAL Wignore Hall.

never left the Paris of Les Six. He spins a thread of easy modal fluency, beautifully executed here by Isserlis and the pianist Susan Tomes, who also gave a graceful reading of David Fanshawe's The Awakening. Again, the raw panpipes and drums of Solomon Islanders seemed to bear little relation to Fanshawe's dreamy, diatonic Carl Vine's inventive Inner

World for solo cello and tape had a true "Pacific" taste. however, with its mixture of high-rech. West Coast rhythmic drive and outlandish harmonic world, whose vocabulary derives from the sounds of the cello itself, computer-altered and interwoven with the playing of another cellist, David Pereira. Barry Humphries joined in

for Grant Belgarian's Of Fables, Foibles and Fancies, written for Gregor Piatigorsky, whom he appointed while music dean of the Univ ersity of Southern California. Isserlis caught the quirky humour of these tall tales with aplomb. Then came Ross Edwards

and Barry Humphries's Cries of Australia, commissioned for the occasion. It was in the guise of the "late" Sandy Stone that Humphries arrived for this disingenuous monologue on his wife Beryl and her table mats. Isserlis was cast as the refugee next door, driving poor Beryl to distraction with his cello practice (an irony not lost on a Wigmore audience). The compromise - Beryl's Chopsticks miraculously turned into a perfectly reasonable accompaniment to the famous melody of Schubert's E flat Piano Trío — was quite a coup de grâce.

HELEN WALLACE

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Most original director of the century?

As London experiences another of Robert Wilson's forays into the challenging - and confusing - Andy Lavender talks to him

ontemplating Robert Wilson requires a range of facial movements. First, the eyes should widen at the evidence of this polymath's activities. Wilson has been making influential artworks — theatre and opera stagings, installations, sculptures, furniture and paintings — since the late 1960s. He is best known for his visually striking stage productions, which he designs, lights and directs himself. According to John Rockwell, the director of New York's Lincoln Centre Festival, he is "the most original director of this century". This is faint praise when set against the enthusiasm of a number of European arts figures, who see Wilson as the unique exponent of spectacular escapism for the intelligentsia.

Secondly, the chin drops in awe at the list of collaborators with whom Wilson has worked. Philip Glass, David Byrne, Heiner Müller, Lou Reed, Jessye Norman, William Burroughs, Tom Waits, Laurie Anderson... you could hardly hope to assemble a more cultish collection.

Then comes the respectful pursing of the lips at the detail which Wilson lavishes on his shows. His recent one-man version of Hamlet. for instance, contained more than 300 lighting cues. "I've worked on shows with Bob where he's had a follow-spot on a performer's finger," says one of his stage managers.

Compare this with the scale of KA MOUNTAIN, an event staged on a mountain in Iran in 1972 that lasted for seven days and featured 500 actors. This suggests the spirit of Wilson's work: magnificent folly combined with the rigorous attentions of the purist.

Finally, two raised eyebrows. One signals the reserve with which some critics approach Wilson's work. finding its formalism too remote, trivial or empty (in some instances, all three). The other indicates the rather eccentric behaviour of the man himself, who conforms to a range of stereotypes concerning the essurised artist-genius. There is the instance when the novelist Edmund White flew from Paris to New York to interview Wilson in his apartment, only to be given a guided tour and not allowed to ask questions of his own. Or the story about Wilson walking out of a hairdresser's salon two hours into a hair coloration, only to return the next day demanding that the job be

So it was no small satisfaction to discover myself, after several false starts, in conversation with Wilson about his production of La Maladie de la Mort, which opens in London tonight as part of the French Theatre Season. The show is a version of Marguerite Duras's novel about a man who hires a woman, perhaps in a last attempt at feeling. In

> **6** Wilson's methods involve the most open mind and the most steely grip 9

Wilson's hands Duras's story has become a chamber piece set in an abstract room which opens on to some sort of seascape. As the show progresses, the "outside" becomes more evident, until in one scene the space is reversed and the characters are in the open - a characteristic visual turn.

Wilson's methods of making theatre involve a strange marriage between the kind of free-association favoured by the surrealists and a fierce formalist discipline. On the one hand the most open mind, on the other the most steely grip. What really makes things different is that Wilson's theatrical solutions often have little to do with the actual work

"I start by thinking about a structure," he says. "I usually find for myself some kind of diagram of outline. With La Maladie I thought of the number seven, as an even number which had three points and

another three points, around a central point. So the piece had a centre. This is not necessarily in the text. It's something I imposed along the way. And it's not necessary than the audience knows what that something is about. I thought of the number seven because Marguerite once told me that the piece takes place over the course of a week, so

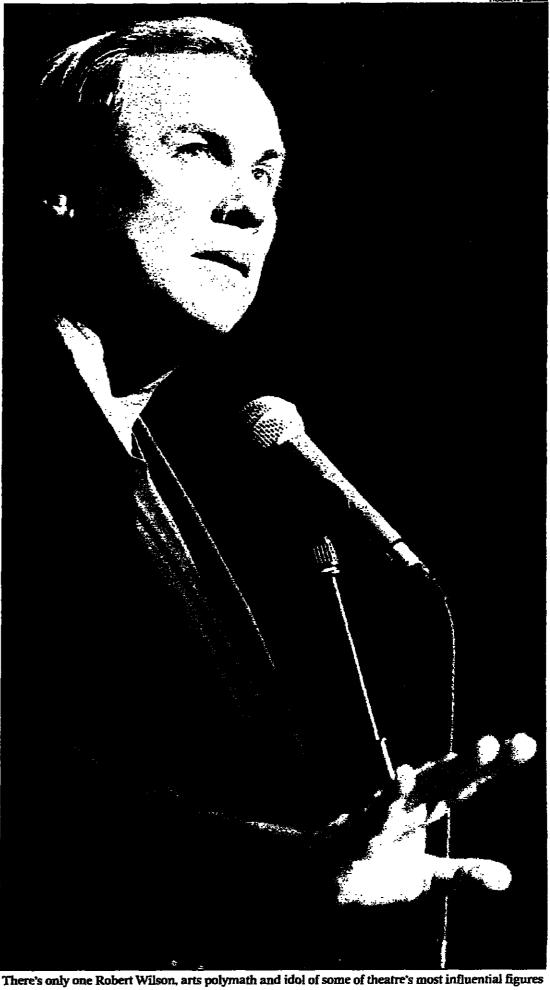
it's seven days." A mere step from this, you can imagine, to a show in seven sections revolving around a scene where the balance shifts from one side of the stage to the other. If it all sounds dauntingly schematic, consider the response of the critic Marc Robinson, who attended the premiere in Berlin five years ago. The production, he suggested, is "attentive to matters of the heart and spirit, with an intensity that makes for emotionally rich performance".

The show has been recast since then. Now it features the celebrated French actor Michel Piccoli and the dancer Lucinda Childs, a longstanding Wilson collaborator. Wilson says the piece has changed as a result, and enthuses about the obvious differences between his two performers as if this somehow enhances Duras's themes of dependence and loneliness.

"Michel Piccoli by nature is very simple in his appearance," Wilson says. "His strength is in his restraint. He's a very modest man. Even though what he's doing on stage is what you'd call 'acting', it's very natural. Lucinda, on the other hand, is very artificial. Her movements are not the kind of movements that you would see on the street. They're made for the stage."

Wilson's work itself delights in its own artifice, so it is no surprise to find him teaming up with Duras. "Marguerite's works are very formal," says Wilson, "but in a formal theatre, believe it or not, if it's done well there's very deep emotion. It's not like Broadway.

● La Maladie de la Mort is at Sadler's Wells at the Peacock Theatre (0171-314 8800) until Saturday, sponsored by



Death rows

THREE high-school boys in Vancouver, wildly drunk, rape a nameless girl. One of them goes overboard and uses a screwdriver. They wake up with three hangovers, one corpse, and no idea which of them killed her.

Robert William Sherwood's gripping play starts 15 years after the students have buried the truth and gone their separate ways. One of the trio, Peter, is seeking absolution He has discovered God, told his Saskatchewan girlfriend the story, and has hitched back to Vancouver to get Gordon and David to repent. It is here that Sherwood's play moves beyond its sensational material to a series of delicately crafted encounters that have the sort of mythic quality of a

big screen showdown.
With the evidence rotted away, Peter's only lever is the truth. But his memory of the

> Absolution BAC, SW11

truth is starkly different to that of Gordon and David. Time has also played tricks with their memory of each other. David, the high-school achiever, has sunk into an anonymous job as a proof-reader. while Gordon has grown into an aggressive, womanising business tycoon.

James Merrells manages to make the caricaturable excesses of Gordon into his strengths, exploding with palpable venom at Peter's insistence on some collective moral responsibility. James Holmes puts in a fantastically convincing performance as the longhaired Peter, whose every night is haunted by the horror of the victim's face and whose salvation is painfully unravelled by David's dry logic. The word was never made flesh," says Timothy Deenihan's inscrutable David. "Not only are you stupid enough to believe it, you're stupid enough to believe it in translation."

What Sherwood makes flesh is that truth with no evidence is only words. Not since Brad Fraser's Unidentified Human Remains and The True Nature of Love has a Canadian play so graphically captured that edgy dislocation between human waste and

> **JAMES** CHRISTOPHER

CONCERTS: Orchestral strength and solo inspiration from North America

A little goes a very long way

hitman-like, the or-chestras of the United States sing America with a great tongue. Many have paraded through London this year, each one a great multinational but with an individual voice that remains vivid - and none more so than the quietly civilised and civilising Indianapolis Symphony, which visited London as the grand finale to

its third European tour.
At just 87 strong, the ISO can function as both chamber ensemble and full-grown symphony orchestra. Its Festival Hall programme of Stravinsky, Mozart and Tchaikovsky epitomised the classically grounded style of the supple language, with its many European inflections, that it has learnt to speak so eloquently in the past decade under the artistic directorship of Raymond Leppard.

The orchestra's first and last notes drew attention to the elegant string textures spun by a hand with a fine quartet of principals at its heart. The encore - the orchestral version of the slow movement of Tchaikovsky's First String

Profession: Artistic director.

Here and NOW: He runs

NOW ninety 7, Notting-ham's month-long festival of

music, new technology.

dance, performance and in-

'stallation. It continues until

Talking about his genera-

tion: "I've radically repack-

aged NOW to focus on

what's most exciting for

younger artists and audi-

ences, people aged 18 to 35.

The performance groups we

feature, like Blast Theory

and Reckless, fir my notion

of doing art for the sake of

doing it, not for the money."

Theatre was his first love:

He grew up in Whickham,

near Gateshead. His parents regretted it."

Age: 28.

November 16.



choice. It signed and sealed the quality of the ensemble playing heard at the very start, in the opening bars of Stravinsky's Divertimento from The Fairv's Kiss.

This was the work in which Stravinsky paid warm, if oblique, homage to Tchaikov-sky. His skill, and that of Leppard and the ISO in recreation, was to assimilate Tchaikovsky's themes in such a way that the ear is left with a sense of something fugitive, an elusive remembrance of things past woven inextricably into a new, living present

This tugging of past and present is very much at the heart of Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony. Its tension pulses through the slow movement's song, and the cellos' response the oboe's bittersweet canzona was transformed cogently by Leppard into a continuing momentum of new affirmation.

After a hard-working Scher-

introduced him to drama at

the Newcastle Playhouse

when he was about 13.

"Right from the first play I

saw, The Merchant of Ven-

Design for a living. After a

degree in theatre design at

Nottingham Polytechnic, he

produced sets and costumes

for, among others, the

Birmingham-based African

People's Theatre and the

London Contemporary

Why did he change direc-tion? "Ruth McKenzie, who

was then executive director

of the Nortingham Play-

house, said 'Andrew, you're

not a very good designer',

and suggested I become a

trainee producer. I haven't

Dance Theatre.

ice, I was really captured."

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

ANDREW CHETTY

the massed pizzicato could really be voiced, the finale, with its sure pacing and closefocus articulation, was an exultant vindication of the

concentration and clarity. The Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky framed Stephen Kovacevich's performance of

certo, K491. This was the cue for the ISO's woodwind to come into its own. In a beautifully enunciated if somewhat austere performance, the entire performance's powerful sharply individual voices provided character and diversion just where they were needed.

HILARY FINCH

Spirit and Polish

language, but with two infrequently played Polish works leatured in Monday's BBC Symphony Orchestra concert alongside Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony, it made good sense to have a Polish conductor on the podium. Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, an old pro in the best sense, andoubtedly brought a feeling of authenticity to the proceedings. Even so, it was the Canadi-

an Chantal Juillet's performance in Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No 2 that most memorable. With smallish but sweet tone, she turned the opening into

Best moment? A Saturday during NOW ninety 5, "We had about 2,500 people, from small kids to pensioners. queueing up to watch Blast Theory perform a piece of experimental theatre in a 30ft-square black box. It was great to see such a wide cross-section of people transfixed by something they'd never have gone to see

DANIEL ROSENTHAL

BBC SO/ Skrowaczewski Festival Hall

an outpouring of endless melody, and under her fingers the music took flight. Just occasionally, in moments where the conductor seemed reluctant to let it flow, the orchestra sounded earthbound, but in the second, folk-inspired section of this unbroken score the

notes positively danced. The conductor brought a similar understanding to Penderecki's bleak Sinfonietta for Strings. If anything was lacking here it was the fault of the music itself, since although the work is concise and well crafted, it inhabits a single emotional plain that suggests Shostakovich without that composer's character-

istic depth. The orchestra sounded at its best in the Pathétique. capturing the autumnal glow of the music. The wind solos had real warmth. Only the scherzo-march was a little ragged, but then there was compensation in its exciting swagger. Skrowaczewski shaped a distinctive performance, particularly in an unsettling first movement marked by fluid tempos and volatile climaxes. The waltz-<u>like Allegro con grazia</u> had a heavier tread than usual. good preparation for the unbearable intensity of the finale. As ahways in any worthwhile performance of this ambiguous work, one was left wondering whether Tchaikovsky really did intend

it as his own Requiem. JOHN ALLISON

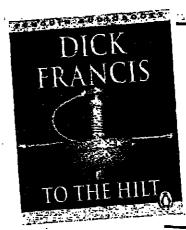
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CHANGING TIMES

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report

November 5 1997

Councils can charge for care

Regina v Powys County Council, Exparte Hambidge, Secretary of State for Health, intervener

Before Mr Justice Popplewell Budgment October 7 A local authority was empowered to charge the recipient of care for services provided under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act

Mr Justice Pegglevell so held in the Queen's Both Division in dismissing the application of Jenny Hambidge for judicial review of the decision of Powys County Council to charge her for certain services provided under section 2 of the 1970 Act.

Section 17 of the Health and

ection 17 of the Health and icial Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983 provides:

(i) ... an authority providing a service to which this section applies may recover such charge (if

Regina v Hackney London

Borough Council, Ex parte

Regina v Merton LBC, Ex

Regina v Same, Ex parte

Regina v Ealing LBC, Ex

A local authority which brought

proceedings to enforce the pay-

ment of council tax by asylum

seekers who had no means of

paying was entitled to do so, and

Mr Justice Kay so held in a

reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing applications by four asylum seek-

ers for judicial review of the

decisions of the respondent local

authorities to bring proceedings against each of them for non-

payment of council tax by seeking liability orders.

Mr Stephen Knafler for the

erion: Mr Ranjil Bhose for

MR JUSTICE KAY said that all

the applicants were in the United

against refusal of asylum and were

not entitled to income support or

The Council Tax (Administra-

tion and Enforcement) Regulations (SI 1992 No 613) gave the local

authority a discretion whether to

proceed at each stage of the

enforcement process and the

authorities had begun that process

by seeking liability orders.

NORTH OF THE THAMES

Kingdom pending their appeals

applicants; Miss Mary Cook for

Ealing and Hackney.

council tax benefit.

was not acting unreasonably.

parte Inparaja

parte Jehan

Before Mr Justice Kay

[Jadgment July 31]

Sueing over unpaid

council tax

iny) for it as they consider "(2) This section applies to services provided under the follow-

ng enacuments — section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948. Section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 provides: "(1) A local authority may ... make arrange-ments for promoting the welfare of persons to whom this section applies, that is to say persons aged eighteen or over who are blind, deaf or dumb, or who suffer from mental disorder ... and other persons aged eighteen or over who are substantially and permanently hardicapped ...

ndicapped. . Section 2 of the Chronically Sick (I) Where a local authority having functions under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948 are order to meet the needs of that person, for that authority to make

Mr Knafler submitted that the local authorities had acted ultra

vires section 11(2) of the Asylum

and Immigration Act 1996 and

regulations made thereunder, which entitled a person gramed asylum on appeal to council tax benefit backdated to the date of

notice of appeal, and which, he contended, must envisage that no

nforcement action be taken mean-

while. The proceedings were also said to be ultra vires the 1992

regulations because they had not

been brought against individuals

within the contemplation of the

means to pay.

His Lordship rejected those sub-missions. If Parliament had in-

tended that there be no enforcement against asylum seek-

ers in those circumstances, it could

have included such a provision in

the Act, which could not be read

Nor could it be said that it was

unreasonable to seek a liability

order in the circumstances. Even

though the applicants might have

been unable to pay, the order enabled the precise liability to be

established at an early stage.
Further, it would not be un-

continue the enforcement process

and seek distress or a committa

order against the applicants. Considerations such as the

desirability of a uniform approach

to council tax payers could reason-

ably outweigh the arguments pit-

Hackney. Clore & Co and Raja & Co; Ms Jane Ramsey, Merton; Mr

Richard Polson, Ealing and Mr Christopher R. Hinde, Hackney.

Solicitors: Ms Angela Jackson,

ted against enforces

sonable for a local authority to

into it by implication.

ations: those who had the

following matters [provisions for assistance with home help, outings, holidays, adapted facilities, etc) then . . . it shall be the duty of that authority to make those arrangements in exercise of their functions under the said section

Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Stephen Cragg for the ap-plicant; Mr Robin Barratt, QC and Mr Clive Lewis for the county council; Mr Steven Kovats for the Secretary of State for Health. MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL

said that was trite law that if a charge was to be made by a public body there had to be clear statutory wording to that effect. It was the contention of the local authority and the secretary of state that the county council was enpowered by section 17 of the 1983 Act to charge for the services provided.

while section 17 did not refer expressly to section 2 of the 1970 Act the services described in sec tion 2 were provided under section 29 of the 1948 Act and were therefore covered by section 17(2).

His Lordship agreed that section rentitled the local authority to charge for services provided under section 29. When providing welfare services under section 2 of the exercising its functions under sec

it was not providing services under section 2: it was making arrangements under the 1948 Act The local authority was entitled to charge.

Mr Roger Eagle, Liandrindod Wells; Solicitor, Department of Health.

Power to search mental patients

Regina v Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority and Another, Ex parte S and Others

Refore Mr Justice Potts (Judgment October 15)

All hospitals admitting patients under the Mental Health Act 1983 had the power to search those patients without consent.

Whether a particular hospital's search policy was lawful was a question of Wednesbury reasonableness ([1948] 1 KB 223). Mr Justice Potts so held in the

Queen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment when dismissing the applications of five applicants detained under the 1983 Act for judicial review of the policy of Brustmans Section Hopsign of Broadmoor Special Hospita Authority, implemented on July 1, 1997 to conduct random and routine searches on patients detained under the Act.

Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Paul Bowen for the applicants; Mr Edward Fitzgerald, QC and Mr Oliver Thorold for the hospital authority: Mr Kenneth Parker, OC and Mr Pushpinder Saini for the Secretary of State for Health.

MR JUSTICE POTTS said that the applicants sought judicial re-view of the policy of Broadmoor Special Hospital Authority to conduct random and routine searches without consent, on patients de tained under the 1983 Act.

All parties agreed that such patients retained all civil rights which were not taken away expressly or by implication: see Raymond v Honey [1983] I AC I).

His Lordship rejected the sub-mission that section 137(2) of the

six laxary two-bedroom

apartments and one

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Knight K

exceptional penthonse

Act expressly conferred on the hospital authority the powers of a constable, including powers of

Section 137(2) referred to powers to detain a person outside hospital and was not apt to cover the regime in a hospital once a patient had been conveyed there.

Whether an implied power existed depended upon whether there was a self-evident or pressing need for such a power: R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Leech (1994) QB 198).
His Lordship found that the

power to detain for medical treatment conferred by the Act included a power to exercise control and cipline (R v Bracknell Justices Ex parte Griffiths [1976] AC 314, 335)) which included a duty to maintain a safe and therapeutic

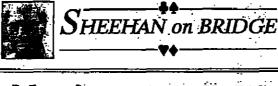
A general power to search patients was necessarily implied as a part of that duty. A power to search in order to prevent escape was also implicit in the power to All hospitals admitting patients under the Act had the general

power to search patients, but

whether a policy of random and routine search was Wednesbury reasonable depended on the circumstances of the hospital. Although the policy was reason able for Broadmoor, a special hospital, it would not necessarily be reasonable for other institutions

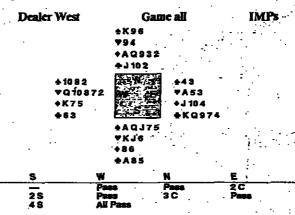
Solicitors: Scott-Moncrieff Harbour & Sinclair; Reid Minty & Co; Solicitor, Department of Health.

containing less dangerous



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

The Russian team which lost in the semi-final of the world junior teams featured one of the strongest pairs ever to play in a junior event. Petrounine and Khiouppenen are first and sixth in their country's open national ranking list; they were West and East respectively on the hand below.



Khiouppenen's Two Club opening showed a limited hand with long clubs. After that it was always going to be difficult for North-South to reach Three No-Trumps from the North seat, the best game on their cards.

Petrounine led the six of clubs, which went to the ten and queen Declarer should play to ruff a heart, but in practice he decided to draw three rounds of trumps because of the impending dub ruff. When he then led the eight of diamonds from hand, intending to run it, Petrounine rose with the king. Now declarer was helpless; he ducked the trick hoping the clubs were initially 6-1, but West could lead a club through dummy's Jx. and East got two club tricks and the ace of hearts for one down.

If Petrounine had not risen

with the king of diamonds, the 3-3 split in the suit would have seen declarer home. East wins the diamond and returns a low heart. As declarer needs West to have the king of diamonds he will play the king of hearts - East is likely to have the ace for his opening bid. And the king is the only winning play if the clubs are 5-2: if West has the ace declarer has no chance.

The Times Book of Bridge 1, compendium of some of Robert Sheehan's daily columns, is now available in all good bookshops or direct from the publisher, B.T. Barsford, on 01376 321276, price £6.99 (plus £1 p&p).

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

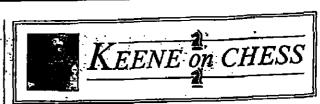
By Philip Howard

SALONFAHIG a. Respectable

b. Long striding c. A dining-car PENGO

c. A Hungarian coin

26 · Bd4 27 Nf6+



By Raymond Keene CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kasparov challenge

On Saturday world champion Garry Kasparov will play a simultaneous match against 100 players in aid of the Fragile X Society, who help those suffering from Fragile X Syndrome, a genetically inherited condition which is the most common cause of learning disability. The display will be at the Cobden Club in London and those interested in playing should contact Jasmin Pelham on 0171 935 3414. .:

Russian wins

Two further examples of play from Russia's fine win in the recently concluded world team championship. White: Alexander Khalifman

Black: Oleg Romanishin World team championship Lucerne 1997

Queen's Indian Defence Bg7 10 Be3 11 cxd5 exc(55 0-0 12 g4 13 h4 Nbd7 hxg5 Nh7 Re8 Nh/8 Qb8 cab4 b3 Nc5 24 Kb1 25 Qd3

Diagram of final position 7 6 **1** 1 0 1 WENGNEW. e e

White: Peter Svidler Black: Amador Rodriguez World team championship.

Lucerne 1997 Sicilian Defence NI3 Nxc3 Be7 0-0 Qg4 Bh6 Bxf8 Qg3 14 exci6. 15 Rd1 16 Nb5 17 Og5 18 Bc4 19 Ox44

-3n

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24 Ne8+ 25 Nd6+ Black resigns

21 Oxc4

22 Kf1 23 Rd8+

Dutch championship In the play-offs for the championship of Holland the manytimes champion grandmaster Jan Timman lost to the former Yugoslav grandmaster Predreg Nikloic 25-15

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

A R

OKIE

 A kind of hornbill b. Betel mut

c. A migrant worker **PONGAL** a_A tart

b. New Year feast

c. Goat biltong

a. A penguin chick b. A memory game

Answers on page 50.

By Raymond Keene THE THOUSE

White to play. From the game Lytschak — Johansen, Tallinn

White has a strong attack, possibilities including a discovered check by the bishop and the rook invasion on c7. How did he combine these in a display of tactical fireworks? Solution on page 50

was detailed a first

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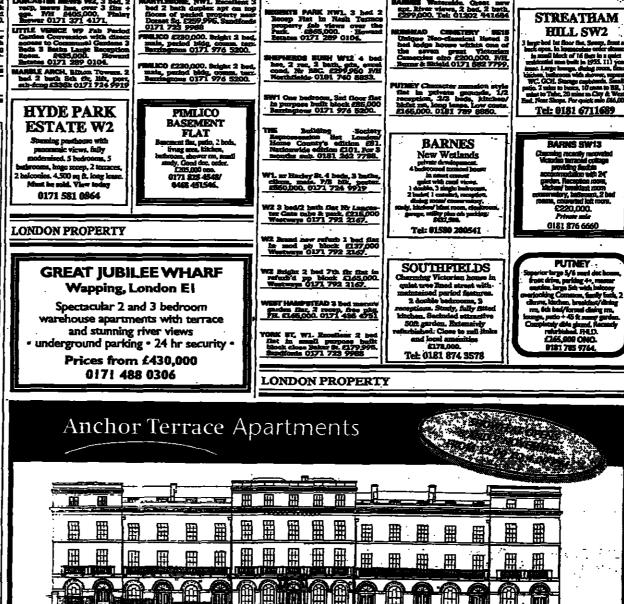
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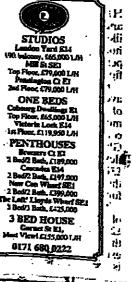
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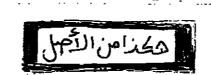




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Sue Herdman

reports on plans

to revive a

semi-derelict

street in an

historic city

A spokeswoman from the Urban

balance of facilities and homes, and

people will move into once-blighted

in Manchester stunning but

derelict Georgian and Victorian

cotton mills are being transformed

into urban villages in former no-go

ghettos such as Hulme and

Ancoats. A decade ago the popula-

tion of Manchester city centre was

just 350. Today it is 4,000 and is

expected to grow to at least 10,000

Similar projects are under way in

Birmingham's historic jewellery

quarter, in the heart of Glasgow's

Gorbals, in Sheffield's Manor and

Lastle housing estates and in London's King's Cross, where the

seven conservation areas, Regent's

Canal and significant green spaces

have up to now been largely left in

inner city areas."

in the next five years.

street said to be England's oldest is soon to be given a 20th-century facelift. King

Street in Norwich, accord-



NIGEL WILLIAM RARE BOOKS

Peter Harringtia

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电扩充电影大震。

Sept. Sec. 19

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The King Street plans in Nor-wich include the reinstatement of medieval street patterns and the wrapping of a glossy modernist development around the ancient Dragon Hall, believed to be the only medieval merchant trading hall left in Europe.

grimy neglect.

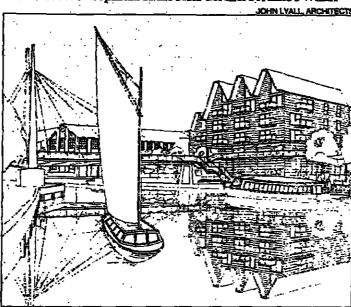
By the millennium there will be the ubiquitously trendy loft apartments for sale here, part of a lively Docklands-type setting.

The atmosphere in King Street today is both one of gentle derelic-



Injecting new life into

Norwich's Dragon Hall in King Street and planning drawings for the redevelopment of the semi-derelict St Anne's Wharf



ed by unattractive 1970s ware-

ancient deconsecrated churches of St Peter Parmentergate (parmenters were the leather workers who were once here and St Etheldreda are still beautiful but crumbling. Their porches house beer-soaked sleeping bags belong-ing to the homeless, their gates provide a learning post to wan-faced young women plying the oldest trade in the world.

But it was not always like this. In the 12th century the street housed tion and artisan elegance: the street the wealthy Jewish quarter and was packed with fine timberchitectural gems seriously blight framed houses and merchant

premises, friaries and taverns. It was home to the wealthy and wellconnected, including Anne Boleyn's grandfather, William, and the Dukes of Norfolk.

In the 19th century light industry arrived with tanneries, maltings, shoe factories and breweries. When those industries declined, some as recently as in the last decade. Norwich seemed to turn its back on the area, leaving the remaining exquisite medieval houses to the pimps and their girls.

project is John Lyall. At the . urban village project has worked moment it is hard to say how well and whether King Street has

stark architect's drawings demand a vivid imagination. He proposes concrete-framed buildings which will frame a tree-lined plazza with the already established Waterfront Club (a music and comedy venue) at one end and at the other a

landscaped square.
The buildings will be clad with timber boarding glass, brick and flint and will house airy three-storey flats with steep pitch roofs, lots of light and balconies overlook-

ing the river.
Underneath the flats will be bars and restaurants with a waterfront promenade which will run past shops, galleries, studios and workshops. But how will these look nestled

beside and behind the ancient Music House (the oldest dwelling in the city) and the elegant Howard House (the past city home to the Dukes of Norfolk)?

Mr Lyall is sure his modernist approach will work. These designs will fit in with the local vernacular and bring a refreshing spirit of modernism," he says. "The process is like dentistry — we'll take out the rotten parts, such as the industrial sheds and brewery buildings, and assess the quality of what's left."

en Powell, director of the 20th Century Society, believes in Mr Lyall's approach. "He has a reputation for thoroughly modern urban repair and restoration," he says, "which has been very successful in projects such as the restoration of the Grade I Corn Exchange and its surrounds in Leeds. That development was pivotal to the regeneration of the city."

If the success of Lyall's Covent Garden-type scheme in Leeds is anything to go by, the future of St Anne's Wharf looks promising. Certainly, the £30 million project has, so far, been enthusiastically received. The creation of jobs, homes, even a new heritage museum, is welcomed. Terry Elliott Shircore, a King Street resident, says: "The rejuvenation will force improvement along the whole length of the street." Mike Loveday, Norwich City Council's head of planning, says: "The development will be important in linking the city with the riverside."

Work should start on the scheme next spring. The first phase and first loft flats will go on sale in 2000. Only then shall The architect at work on the we see whether this particular his plans are going to work. The retained its artisan air.



Belgravia beats **Holland Park**

What are the best addresses in London, asks Diana Wildman

new survey of central London estate agents has nevealed that Eaton Square, Chester Square and Wilton Crescent are the most desirable London addresses. For flats, Eaton Square. Cadogan Square and Cadogan Place are, say the 34 agents surveyed, the best addresses.

This obsession with Belgravia is interesting because, until recently, many estate agents said that the area, compared with neighbouring Chelsea, was losing its appeal for many wealthy buyers.

The reasons, we were told, are twofold. First, overseas buyers - who form the bulk of purchasers at the top end of the market - much prefer to buy freehold properties. These abound in Kensington and Chelsea but are virtually non-existent in Belgravia. Secondly, the restrictions

imposed on commercial and residential properties by the Chesham Place to be central Lon-Grosvenor Estate, which owns the freehold of most of Belgravia. deterred buyers.

But, Nick Pearce of the Sloane Square agents, Beaney Pearce, says this is changing. "Buyers are more informed about the 1993 Leasehold Reform Act and realise that they can enfranchise and exmany potential buyers who refused to buy into Belgravia three or four years ago, but they know that

the possibility now exists to extend a lease.

Eaton Square has always had huge cachet, despite being bisected by a busy road. But Lorna Vestey of Knight Frank is surprised to see Chesham Place taking fifth place in the flat stakes. She says: "Sales over the past two years have shown

CAPITAL PLACES

Eaton Square, SWI

Chester Square, SWI

Wilton Crescent, SWI

.. The Boltons, SW10

Belgrave Square SWI

Egerton Crescent SW3

Cadogan Place SWl

Egerton Terrace SW3

. Gilston Road SW10

Chelsea Square SW3

London's best house addresses

don's most valuable address, far

out-performing rates per square

It is the cachet of Eaton Square

together with its location that

attracts so much interest, particu-

larly among overseas buyers. A

number of these, unfamiliar with

London, will live nowhere else,

according to Mr Pearce, not least

because it is the only place with

foot in Eaton Square.

which they are familiar.

"I recently had an extremely wealthy New York client, with several homes worldwide, keen to buy in Eaton Square but whose knowledge of London was limited," he continues. "I tried to suggest other places to look at too but there was no point. He had heard only of Eason Square." The fact that beautiful houses overlooking acres of

private gardens exist in Notting Hill and that there are grand detached mansions in Holland Park matters not a jot to certain agents who seem keen only to promote areas of international promi-Ms Vestey is an exception. "English families, on the whole, want houses with gardens and you tend not to

find these in Belgravia," she says. "This is why freehold houses in Kensington and Chelsea have seen the biggest price rises over the past two

ears. Eaton Square may be the best flat address in London but it is almost unknown as a house address because few of the houses are available for sale.

There are lots of multimillion-pound houses in Kensington and Holland Park, in areas such as Victoria Road, son Road, which we believe should definitely have been included in this survey."

Why one of Britain's oldest estate agencies is changing its name

avills, the estate agent that has handled sales of houses as spacious as Hever Castle, the Astors' family home, and Earl Peel's Gunnerside estate in North Yorkshire, is to be renamed FPD Savills in January. The change comes after the sale of 20 per cent of its shares to the Hong Kong property group First Pacific Davies last week for £17 million.

Savills is the second agent to change name recently. In January, 1996, Rutley vanished from Knight Frank sale boards. The firm's image was one of dealing with ancestral estates, but more than half its business involves office blocks and indus-Firial sites. The partners wanted to swap the impression of tweedy gentleman land agents for the steely image of an international corporation.

The rebranding of Savills, one of the oldest estate agencies, founded by Alfred Savill in 1855, signals the company's plans to expand in the US. Savills hopes to take a stake in an American estate agency and to strengthen its continental links.

Mr Savill set up business as a land agent, surveyor and auctioneer at 27 Rood Lane, London EC3. The firm became Alfred Savill & Sons in 1886, when Alfred took his son into partnership. His grandsons followed in the early 1900s. In 1967, Alfred Savill & Sons merged with the West End firm Curtis & Henson, and in 1972 changed its name to Savills. The firm became a limited company in 1987, and won a stock market listing in 1988. The rebranding will involve changing 34

estate agency shops in Britain and 36 shops overseas, not to mention numerous sale boards advertising houses and estates forsale. The company refused to disclose the pst of rebranding, but has commissioned new logo from a design consultancy.

The firm currently has 36 offices in Eu-

rope, but none in America. It was previously associated with the US estate agency Galbreath, a tie broken last summer when Galbreath was sold to Lasalle,



America beckons a grand old firm

another American agency. Godfrey Blott, FPD's managing director, said: "I expect we'll announce something in about three with, say, Jones Lang Wootton, you've got to look like them."

JLW is the biggest British surveying firm overseas, and Savills, with 800 employees, is among the top ten international surveying firms.

Pressure for a US expansion had come

from existing FPD clients such as IBM

and Motorola, Mr Blott added. Several American firms have already approached

months. We need to address entering the FPD is based in Hong Kong, with 18 American market. If you want to compete offices in eight Asian cities, and the rest in with, say, Jones Lang Wootton, you've got Australia. The FPD group of companies, listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange has a market capitalisation of £1.5 billion. Savills' commercial and residential agency business will be renamed, but the holding company. Savills plc, is not affected.

RACHEL KELLY

Mortgage rates push up prices

HIGHER mortgage rates and rising house prices are likely to push up the cost of houses and flats by nearly 17 per cent by Christmas, new igures show.

Homeowners spend on average £27 out of every £100 of take-home pay on their mortgage. By Christmas, ac-cording to the Cheltenham & Gloucester's "affordability inlex", they can expect to pay E31.50, making housebuying the most expensive it has been

Twelve months ago the cost for five years. of buying a home was just £24.90 the index shows. Since then, it has become more expensive to buy a house. This ments. is because rising mortgage

How paying for a home will take more of your salary

rates and increasing house prices have outweighed the benefits of rising salaries and

tax changes. Sue Anderson of the Council for Mortgage Lenders says such figures should be viewed in context. She adds: "Buying £31,000 will fall into the same a house is affordable if one looks at long-term trends, although housebuying has become more expensive recently because of the interest rates rises and reduction in tax re-

payments is being reduced to 10 per cent from April 6, from the present level of 15 per cent. In 1994, relief was available on 25 per cent of mortgate interest payments. This means that a property costing

tax-relief bracket as a £200,000 property. Roger Burden, the managing director of Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society. says: "In the early 1990s our index showed buyers spending about £70 in every £100 of take-home pay on mortgages. lief on mortgage interest pay-Relief on mortgage interest

per cent." The rise has not reached the

levels of earlier this decade. First-time buyers now have to spend on average only 11.9 per cent of their income on their mortgage, compared with 25.3 per cent back in 1990. This fall in initial repayments is caused mostly by the fall in interest rates, which have fallen from 14.99 per cent in 1990 to just 6.78 per cent by the second quarter of 1997. Ms' Anderson says: "Inter-

affect those on the margins, who are just managing to afford their mortgages." NEIL HUDSON

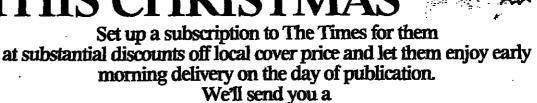
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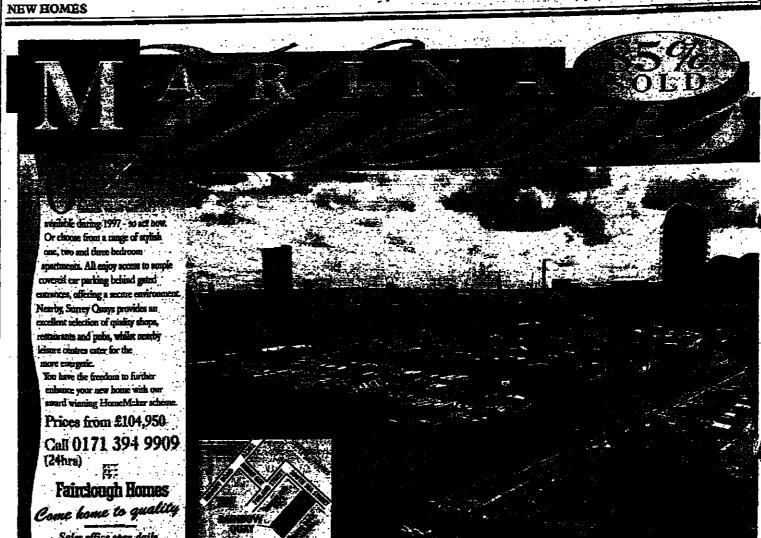
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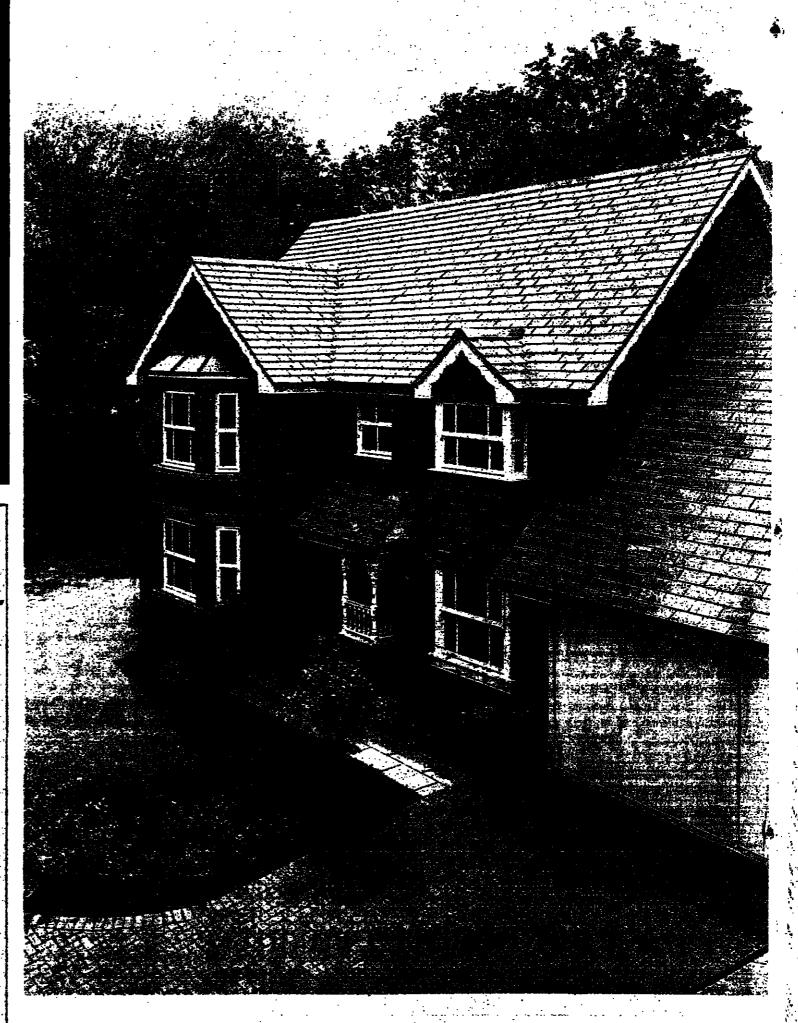
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The right move begins with Moves

Choisea, London SW10 01628 770070 Gallery Court. Just one spacious 1 bedroom galleried apartment remains in this prestigious modern new building in this exclusive location.

Rocksupton, London SW15 01628 770070 £1.2m Pembroke House, Rochampton Gate. A distinguished classically styled 5 bedroom detached house of character simated behind electric gates in this prestigious location close to Richmond Park.

Leadon, WC2 01932 576 500 Blythe House. A refurbishment of a Grade II listed Georgian town house to provide a four bedroom, three bathroom property arranged over five floors. COLOUR BROCHURE NOW AVAILABLE.

London, EC4 01932 576 500 £205,000 to £350,000 Fleet Street. A development of 1 two bedroom duplest apartment and 5 one bedroom apartments in this superb location giving easy access to central London for theatres, restaurants and cinemas. BROCHURE NOW AVAILABLE.

Ludgate Hill, ECA 01494 677777 The Gallery. An exceptional opportunity to purchase a most designale 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom interior designed penthouse with stunning views over St Pauls Cathedral.

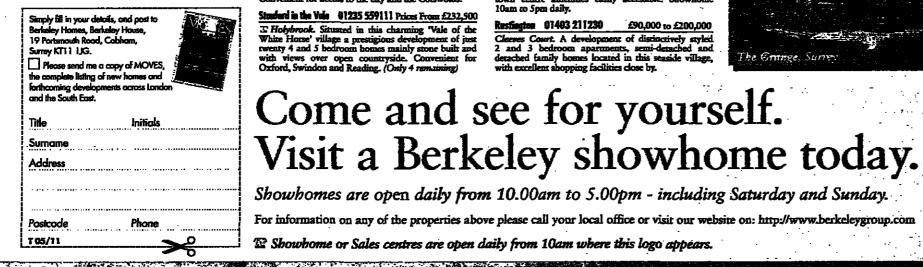
Clerkenwell, ECI 01494 677777 From £160,000 to £425,000 25 Farringdon Road. Set behind an exquisite listed facade a selection of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments and duplexes. Close by to Farringdon Station, some with roof terraces and ciry views. 11 RESERVED.

London, EC3 07000 NUHOME £210,000 to £430,000 614663 15 Trinity Square. Sixteen 1 and 2 bedroom apartme

most with outstanding views across the Tower of London to Tower Bridge and the River Thames. London, EC3 07000 NUROME £135,000 to £395,000 684663

Monument House. An exciting new development of thirty-seven 1 and 2 bedroom apartments in this historical location in the heart of the city. Wapping, E1 97000 NUHOME £300,000 to £750,000

684663 Capital Wharf. Eighty-five 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments and penthouses, most of which have sunny south facing balconies overlooking the Thames with





Wallingford 01235 559111 Prices From £185,000

Thameside Marsian. A Georgian style mansion block of just ten 2 bedroom distinctive luxury apartments situated in 21st acres of parkland sweeping down to the banks of the River Thames and yer located within the centre of this popular market town. Magnificent views toward the River Thames and Castle Mound. Private Parking. 50% SOLD.

Freeland 01235 559111 Wychwood House. Simated on the fringes of the village to the north of Oxford city just one stone built 5 bedroom property with south facing rear garden. Convenient for access to the city and the Cotswolds.

Stradard in the Vole 01235 559111 Prices From £232,500 ☑ Holybrook. Situated in this charming 'Vale of the White Horse' village a prestigious development of just twenty 4 and 5 bedroom homes mainly stone built and KENT

West Kingsdown 01959 561 499 £215,000 to £230,000 Windmill Grange. Home to the world famous Brands Hatch motor racing circuit, this pretty Kentish village is now also home to five detached family properties, each with 4/5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms and fitted

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Burgess ## 01403 211230 From £240,000 to £280,000 Ti Hammonds Gardens. Nine spacious 5 bedroom detached family bomes set in the former grounds of a Grade II Elizabethan residence. Main line station and 10am to 5pm daily.

Restington 01403 211230 £90,000 to £200,000 Cleans Court. A development of distinctively styled. 2 and 3 bedroom apartments, semi-detached and detached family homes located in this seaside village,



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Esher . 01932 576 500 The Grange, New Road. An exceptional five bedroom family bome located in one of Esher's most prestigious private roads. COLOUR BROCHURE NOW AVAILABLE.

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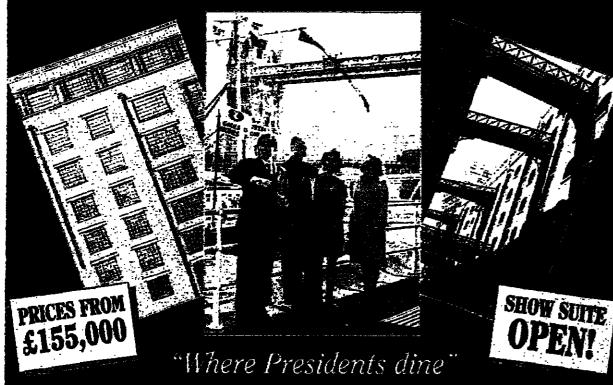
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Viking Flagship lifts gloom with fighting display

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

RACES have been run at what is now called Exeter racecourse since the reign of Charles I came to a sticky end in 1649, but few can have surpassed the speciacle which unfolded yesterday as Viking Flagship outbattled Mulligan, his junior stable companion, in a memorable renewal of the William Hill Haldon Gold Cup Steeplechase.

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If the treat of a rehearsal for the Queen Mother Champion Chase was not sufficient this early in the season, National Hunt enthusiasts can now relish the prospect of a repeat performance or performances between the two David Nicholson-trained chasers.

Both have been pencilled in for the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown and the Castleford Chase at Wetherby. If they clash, hey clash. Neither owner bets, both love the sport and that is what it is all about," Nicholson said.

Even the fog, which swirled for most of the afternoon around the historic racecourse perched on the top of Telegraph Hill, deigned to lift briefly as the six runners made their way to post.

In the betting ring, punters appeared to be distinctly ageist in their preferences. Viking Flagship, something of a veteran at ten, was allowed to drift from an opening 7-1 to an insulting 9-1, while Mulligan, three years his junior, was 2-1, with Ask Tom installed the 7-4

Mulligan, a faller at Cheltenham and Aintree last season, set a demanding pace from the start under Adrian Maguire Gales Cavalier, race-fit after a recent Wincanton victory, tried briefly to keep up with the gallop but soon found it too much and it was left to Ask Tom to jump alongside the leader from the fourth to seventh

All the time, Viking Flagship stalked the pacemakers,

Singspiel scare

Singspiel, the favourite for the Breeders' Cup Turf at Hollywood Park on Saturday, has suffered a minor foot problem. His trainer, Michael Stoute, postponed a workout planned for yesterday but expects Singspiel to be fit to exercise today. "We had a little problem," Stoute said. We were rather concerned but he is fine. He can live with it." Ladbrokes makes Singspiel 5-4 favourite from evens.

initially some lengths away before creeping closer.

Unexpectedly, Ask Tom suddenly faded tamely and was pulled up before the third last, leaving Mulligan with a generous lead which looked sure to be converted into

But, as he turned for home. the demanding pace was beginning to take its toll and Viking Flagship, travelling well, loomed up alongside.

Richard Johnson waited until just before the last before taking the lead and any hopes Mulligan's supporters may have retained were dashed by a magnificent leap from Vi-

king Flagship. Nicholson, visibly moved, said: "I have never had one like him. He has won over £500,000 in prize-money. He came back to us before our open day on August 17. Usually we don't get him back until the end of September and the way he has been working at

home, I knew he was right."

Johnson said: "Viking Flag-ship was struggling for the first half of the race, which made me think they must have been going pretty quickly. But he gradually got into it and he jumped up the straight like a superstar. He has been doing it for years and knows more about the game than I do."

Tom Tate, the trainer of Ask Tom, was nonplussed by the poor performance of the favourite. "He was well, fit and fancied. We are grasping at straws. The only thing I can think of is that he has never travelled overnight before. He has not eaten an oat but I am not putting that forward as an explanation."

The magnificent duel between Nicholson's horses could not have been better timed for Exeter, which wrote another page in its history with the opening of an extension to the Brockman stand, complete with a new owners' and trainers' bar, hospitality suites and betting hall.



Might And Power holds on by a short head to beat Doriemus in a thrilling finish to the Melbourne Cup

Harbour Dues has rough passage

FROM BRIAN MELDRUM IN MELBOURNE

MISFORTUNE in running may well more than the margin by which he was have cost Harbour Dues, trained by

Lady Herries was delighted with the performance of Harbour Dues and immediately announced plans to bring him back next year. "It was a fantastic run," she said. "He just flew when he got out. Everyone wrote him off, but we knew he would run well."

Arabian Story ran into some minor interference early in the race, but his rider, Frankie Dettori, still considered he had a winning chance four furlongs out.

BIG-RACE DETAILS

Going: good

04.20 FOSTER'S MELBOURNE CUP

O4.20 FOSTER'S MELBOURNE CUP (Handicap: 2668,224; 2m)

1, MIGHT AND POWER (J. Cassidy, 7-2 tav); 2, Durientus (G. Hall, 9-1), 3, Markham (L. Ditiman, 25-1), 4, Harbour Dues (R. Cochrane, 40-1), ALSO RAN (in finishing order); Linesman (5th), Arabian Story (6th), Skybbau, Ebony Grosve, Suplo, Grandmaster, Court Of Honour, Magnet Bay, Vall, Always Alodf, Scrupulous, Yobro, Surny Lane, Martile Halls, Alfa, Bonsai Pipeline, Clying Game, Mount Chwas, 22 can. Sh.hd, 34, 181, nose, 241, J. Denham, Tote (inc. 1\$Aus); 5,70; 2,90, 3,70, 8,90.

"He stayed on well to finish a gallant sixth." Dettori said. "That's probably as good as he could have gone, but if he had broken with them and not struck trouble he could have finished a couple of lengths closer.

Lord Huntingdon, Arabian Story's trainer, finished ninth with Drum Taps in 1993, but predicted he would have a runner in the first three next time. "We're getting closer," he said. "It was worth coming here, the horse acquitted himself well. I shall recommend to the Queen that Arabian Story be prepared for the race again next year."

Might And Power, who won the Caulfield Cup two weeks ago, produced an impressive staying effort under Jim Cassidy to complete the double. He fended off Crying Game and then Lines-man before finding the reserves to hold the challenge of Doriemus.

However, the result proved costly for the bookmakers, leaving Kerry Packerarguably the biggest punter in the world - the richer by an estimated £2.5 **BOWLS**

Disbelief as Canada upset the old world

FROM DAVID RHYS JONES IN HONG KONG

JIM AITKEN, from Vancouver, and Lyall Adams, of Edmonton, were on the telephone to Canada yesterday, after they beat the world pairs champions. Jeremy Henry and Sammy Allen, of Ireland. in the third round of the Manulife Hong Kong Interna-

"It's not often that Canadian bowlers get the chance to Adams said after calling home

The Irish went into the last end one shot in front, but Adams conjured up two shots with his very last bowl and Canada edged home, 16-15.

happen in round-robins and there is time for the Irish to recover. Indeed, they bounced back to beat Lo Shu Wing and Tsang Chung Piu, of the intriguingly named Correctional Services Club, 33-12. Wales recorded the highest

score of the championships -42. against Victoria Park --England returned the biggest winning margin, in their 41-8 success over Hong Kong Football Club, and Scotland compiled the longest scoring sequence, compiling 32 shots without reply against China

Andy Wills and Stuart Airey, of England, earned a 18-16 win over Ireland last night and, after five rounds. stand third in section B, while David Gourlay and Graham Robertson, of Scotland, put their opening defeat at the hands of Hong Kong behind them and are top of section A.

sentatives, Tony Tong and Jacky Wong, turned a 13-1 deficit into an extraordinary 32-J7 victory to inflict a first defeat on Jim Melbourne and Ken Wallis, of Kowloon Crick-

Results, page 49

THUNDERER

1.30 NO PATTERN (nap) 2.30 Knightsbridge Scot

3.00 Bayerd 3.30 Lets Be Frank 4.00 Royal Piper ::

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.00 BAYERD.

1.30 BONFIRE PARTY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,222: 2m) (7 rumsers)

2113-YET ASAM 81F (F.S.) (A Griffin) Mass & Kelkeney 5-12-0 R Thornton 105
313894- MO PATTERIA 194 (S) (K Flogram) & L Moore 5-11-3 M Batchelor (3) 124
13125-P SPROMTRAYE & OLL (E.S.) (Mrs O Foster) / Long 9-11-1 P Herniey 107
371 (MARSES 1128 (D.F.) (S Warniew) & Warniews 9-10-5 L Aspell
0-0145 TANSO MAN 5 (D.F.) (S & Construction 10) / U Shee 5-10-0 J Marger 11
0/4427- ALM MITERIATION (M.) 200 (P Tourishy) Mrs P Tourishy 5-10-0 X Argorn 116
5580 DIGPAST 15 (Mrs S James) / Bridge 7-10-7 Soptia Minchelt

eng handleapt Taugo Man 9-12, Altra latessational 9-8, Dignast 9-1. BETTBAS' 15-8 Yet Again, 9-4 No Pallern, 9-2 Sprintingre, 8-1 Tango Man, 10-1 Alia International, 14-1 Kinders,

1996: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

Yet Again 441 Srd to Albernine in course and distance handicap hardle (good to firm); previously beat Locks Finds 144 in 2m 11 Tangine novice hundle (good). No Pattern 231 4th to Sounds Like Fin in 2m Ascal movice handicap hardle (good to firm); Sprindtayre pulled up in 2m Townester handicap hardle (good to firm); purviously 301 lest of 5 to Tickerty's Gift in 294m Lingfield handicap hardle (good to firm); purviously 301 lest of 5 to Tickerty's Gift in 294m Lingfield handicap hardle (good to firm); Par Wincardon revice hundle (good to firm). Tango Man 141 5th to Sylvan Sabre in 2m 18 Bangor handicap bardle (good). Alak Hammedional pulled up in 294m Fontwell crasides hundle (good to firm); previously short head 2nd of 11 to Reverse Thrust in Plannation sovice burdle (good to firm). Diggsast 321 7th to Reach The Clouds in 2m 14 Plannation handicap handle (good).

YET AGAIN, in good form on the Flat this term, is taken to dely top weight

2.00 GUNPOWDER PLOT NOVICES CHASE (£3,355: 3m) (4-romers).

onic, 11-5 VSeriegion, 4-1 By's Harbour, 33-1 Berbelbin. 1996; BARCHET 6-17-0 A Microline (6-13 km) D Michelson 5 san

Mentesonic beat Galateson Line 131 in 31km Winconion novice class (good) with Benbelbin (6th better off) polled up. Ely's Rarboar pulled up in 31km Hontingdon novice burdle (good to soft); previously 301 9th to 9th di Blazar in 21km Lancester novice burdle (good to soft). Klavingdon beat Southerniary Boy 1.5 in 21km Winconion aurice house final).

MENESCAIC can confirm the favourable impression created at Winconion.

2.30 FIREWORK NIGHT NOVICES HURDLE (\$2.857: 2m 5f) (11 runners) ·

(\$2,857 2m 5f) (11 INTERES)

BALLAM ROCKET (M Robarts) M J Robarts 5-10-10 P. Herday (5) O. CHARLE BANGER 284 (D R A C Perbership) K Bodes 5-10-10 R Thronton (5) 70 O. CHARLE BANGER 284 (D R A C Perbership) K Bodes 5-10-10 R Thronton (5) 70 O. CHARLE BANGER 284 (D R A C Perbership) K Bodes 5-10-10 R Thronton (5) 70 O. CHARLE BANGER 285 (D P Tourship) May P Tourship 3-10-10 In P Tourship 9 D. CHARLE S 18 (Brigartier Rocket) May M Annes 3-10-10 In P Promotor 5 O. CHARLE BANGER 182 (D P) (Doublisheding BC) May W Marine 5-10-10 R Daymer 50 MARISHIPS BANGER 182 (D P) (Doublisheding BC) May W Marine 5-10-10 R Daymer 50 MARISHIPS MILL (May J Berbay) C Stemend 5-10-10 L Aspell (5) 69 071340 SCOTION P PLEISRE 198 (S) (W Michael Rackey Plens) J Mallins 5-10-10 A Tourship 9 071340 SCOTION P PLEISRE 198 (S) (W Michael Rackey Plens) J Mallins 5-10-10 A Tourship 11 SEAMING DANCER 127 (Laboratis Pathoschy) S Doe 5-10-5 D Baldgreater 15 SEAMING DANCER 127 (Laboratis Pathoschy) S Doe 5-10-5 D Baldgreater 10-10-14 (Laboratis Pathoschy) S Doe 5-10-5 D Baldgreater 10-14 (Laboratis Pathoschy) S Doe 5-10-5 D Baldgre

1998: MILLERSFORD 5-10-10 J R Kwaragh (11-2) N Gasalee 11 ran

Charlie Banker beaten a distance 7th to Owen Oi Spaties in 2m Sandnem novice hurdle (good to soit). Elespray 371 4th to Albub in 2m Haydock novice hurdle (good), Joby James tell in 24m Shadhord novice hurdle (good) envirously 401 3rd in Solyan in 2m Chenstow novice hurdle (good time). Registrabuling scart 5 2nd in Decide Yoursel in 2m Chenstow novice hurdle here (good). Rising Man 311 8th to Shaspical in 214m Foliastoon novice hurdle (good). Sooting Pedigrae 322 14th to Arctic Canger in 2m Punchestown NH Bat race (good). Staning Dancer won over 2m here on Flat.

KNRGHTSBREIGE SCOT is a terestive choice to overcome a lengthy absence

CANE TO OTHER DIE HOW THE 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF.F.B.S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0

Bacecard number. Sur-liques from (F — lell. P — pulled up: JJ — assessed cider. B — brought down. S — stipped up. R — refused. D — disposition). Horse's name. Days since last outing F if that (B — blankers, V — when; H — hood. E — Pleashfeld. C — course winer. D — dispose whener. CD — course and distance

whose. or — Deems program is ease tower. Going on which horse has won if — firm, good to firm, bard. 6 — good. 8 — soft, good to soft. Acasy). Conner in brackets. Trainer, Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Time(seeper's speed rating).

Lady Herries, a famous victory in the

Melbourne Cup yesterday. Ridden by Ray Cochrane, the five-year-old came

with a storming run through the last two furlongs to finish fourth, a length

behind the winner, Might And Power,

the 7-2 favourite. The Queen's Arabian

Story also ran a creditable race to finish

sixth, and he too might have finished

Harbour Dues suffered interference

four furlongs from home which Cochrane believed cost him a higher

placing, if not victory. The interference,

he reported, put him further back than

he wanted to be on the home turn, and

left him with some eight lengths to make up on Might And Power, who made all

of the running. "At the top of the straight I thought we had a bit of running to do,

but I knew we had plenty left," Cochrane

Greg Hall, the rider of Doriemus, was

given a severe reprimand for causing the

interference which cost Harbour Dues

closer but for a slow start.

3.00 GUY FAWKES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,388: 3m) (6 runners)

12294-1 MONYANDS 15 (D.G) (5 Powel) Mrs S Smith 8-12-0 R Guest 109
PSEP-11 SOLO SENT 28 (D.F.S.S) (Fastivey Racing Cutch A P Jones 8-11-8 Shibtelli 118
6/1222-1 HERI LEARE 27 (B.F.S.) (E Henry A H Henry 7-11-3 JA McCarthy 126
1124223 BAYFON 15 (B.F.D.F.S.S) (C Konstruction HEB) J O'Shes 6-11-0 R Thomston (3) 127
1/PFIF SAN FERNANDO 929 (E.S.) (Mrs S Embricos) J Elford 11-10-13 P Histo
4844-84 LAKE 0F LOUISHREA 13 (B.F.S.) (Als N LOdiny) K Balley 7-10-13 A Thomston 121 SETTING: 15-8 Magricoss, 7-2 Solo Gent, 9-2 Bayerd, 6-7 Sao Fernando, 7-1 High Leane, 8-1 Lake Of Londons. 1996; DRUMCULLEN 7-11-0 C O'Dwyer (4-1) K Belley 7 ran

Monymoss beat the Gopher 2: in 3m Huntingdon handicap chase (good). Solo Bant beat Count Barachais 111 in 3m11 Townester handicap chase (good). High Leade beaten a distance when 2nd to Domaure De Prou in 3m Moncester novice chase (good). High Leade beaten a distance when 2nd to 24m Chestow handicap chase (good). San Fermando, lett at Ayr latest, previously heat Rocky Park. 151 in 2m57 Wincanton novice chase (good to firm).

MONYMOSS, raised Just 21b for his easy Huntingdon success, has solid claims

3.30 PARLIAMENT HOVICES CHASE

(£3,371: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 numers) A Thornton 1
P/221- SOURBON COUNTY 241P (G) (Ethens Animal Feed) Mics S Witton 7-11-0 R Faceset
11510- LETS BE FRANK 246 (B) (Ethens Animal Feed) Mics S Witton 7-11-0 R Faceset
11510- LETS BE FRANK 246 (B) (B) (LES) (A) is M Stoben) M Clearce 6-11-0 R Johnson
F46220- UPPRETTO 188 (G) Inch's Mics S Inch's 1-11-0 J R Faceset
274429- SOVAL RAWSH 255 (D,6) (A) Wester) J Gilbord 6-11-0 G Rawshiy
12519- STRING GALE 204 (D,E,6) (A) Canbb. 8 Ent. P May (D) Stremond 6-11-0 J Osborne
12519- STRING GALE 204 (D,E,6) (A) Canbb. 8 Ent. P May (D) Stremond 6-11-0 J Osborne

DETTIME: 2-1 Spring Sale, 3-1 Lets Be Frank, 6-1 Wine Apr I, Operato, 7-1 keyel Rasson, Statists, 12-1 Bouston County 1996: FINE THYNE 7-11-0 M A Fazyerald (6-5 tw) 6 Harvenot 8 cas Who Am I best With Impurity 1½I in 2½m grade il Worcester novice burdle (good to soil). Lets Be Frank neck 2nd to Edgemout Prince in 2½m Warnick bardinap burdle (good). Operatio 62 9th to Eau Be Cologne in 2½m Hereford rovice burdle (good). Shekete, putted up at Martiel Rasen latest, previously 21 2nd to lets Dam in 2½m Stratford novice burdle (good). Spring Bake, pulled up at Gaallesham latest, previously best Charley Lambert 1¼I in 2½m Doncaster novice burdle (good to form).

LETS BE FRANK, a usable burdler, will be hard to best if taking to the larger obstacles

4.00 catesby handicap hurdle

(£3,420: 3m 110yd) (5 runners). 1 153SP41 SMINH 100 11 (0.5.5) Sinch Marchael Ment Col Mrs. J. Promm 9-11-10 R. Formet 114
2 44125-1 FLYING FROULER 78 (8.2.5.5) (M. Roberts) M. J. Roberts 6-17-9 P. Henley (1) 121
3 425351- ROYAL PRES 217 (0.5.5) (A. Darlagorn) A. J. Wilcon 10-1-8 L. Harrey 119
4 44755- SMINGGLETS POWN 126 (7.5.) (M. Y. Hamu) J. Darlagorn) 1-1-1 Sophia Michael (3) 120
5 USP-340 JOHAN, MAN 15 (F.S.) (Mrs. B. Marchael) R. O'Saltham 8-10-9 J. O'sborne 112
BETTING: 7-4 Rying Flatder, 11-4 South Tan, 7-2 Royal Place 1, 13-2 Smangler's Point, 7-1 John Man.
1986: OCEAN HAMM: 4-11-11 C Livership (9-4 lay) N Twiston-Daves 9 fan

Smith Too beal Couchant neck in 3m Market Rasen bandican burdle (good). Flying Fiddler beat Sterp Command 5i in 2n5i Mempira handican handic (good). Rayal Piper beat Bartont Sovereign 14i in 3m Whorester handicap handle (good to firm). Smaggler's Point 21i 5th to 51 Ville in 25km Forthwell handicap handle (good to firm). Jovial Man beaten a distance 8th to Tidal Force in 25km Chepstow handicap handle (good).

SMITH TOO, a game winner at Market Rasen, can dely top weight

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINFRS .IOCKEYS Rides R Alter K Balley Alte J Planest O Sterwood S Dear C Brooks 27.3 J Ostome 20.4 P Hensey 18.4 M Williamso 19.0 P Hide 14.2 S McNeil 11.8 Only qualifie 111 12 71 53 36

Warwick

Going: firm, good to firm in places

1,40 (2m hože) T, Gray Pestel (A P McCoy, 1-3 tav); 2, Blue Chesse (8-1); 3, Lines-G (7-1), 5 ran. 1%1, 5d, M Pipe. Tote: 21.30; 21.10, 21.50. DF: 22.80 CSF. 23.71.

2.10 (2m hdie) 1, Aubum Boy (A P McCov, 7-1); 2, Albernine (7-2); 3, Filter (5-1), Brambles Way 5-4 fav. 10 rat. NR: My Bity Boy, 2; 4!, FWBarns, Tota; 28.20; 53.20, 51.80. 51.10. DF: 59.50. Tho: 513.70. CSF: £28.64.

£13.70. CSF: £28.64.
2.49 (3m 2/ ch) 1, Gower-Slave (W Marston, 11-4): 2 Little Tracture (evens tay). 5 ran, 8. F Boven, Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £1.10 DF: £2.60. CSF: £5.92.

21.10 DF: 22.00. CSF: 25.52 3.10 (2m 3f hdls). 1. Royel Action (J Osborne, 8-13 lav); 2. Meizemet (11-8); 3. Rocky's Profiles (25-7), 3 ser. NR. Ga-Ment. 18] cids. O Shewood. Tole: £1.50 DF: £1.10; CSF: £1.70

8.40 (3m 2 ch) 1, Commanche Creek (A P MicCoy, 8-13 lav); 2, What is The Plan (7-2), 3 ran. Sh hd. M Pipe, Tote: £1.40; DF: £2.10, CSP: £2.77.

4.10 (2m hdle) 1, Soldingo (Mr S Durack 11-8 tax); 2, Rober's Toy 5-2; 3, Squirs's Occasion (13-8), 3 ran, 2/H, hd, C Price Totar 42-60, DF 52-80, CSF: £4-32,

Placepot: £22.90. Quadpot: £4.90.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Haydock Parts 3 40 Two For One.

1. VUID 550

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Redcar Going: good, good to firm in places

Sorrig good, good in Services, 130 (7) 1, Gypsy Passion (J Fortune, 14-1); 2 Dog Watch (3-1); 3, Free Option (100-30) Krissinto 9-4 law. 18 ran. 2, nk. M. Johnston Totes 221 (10; 53-40, 21 ab. 21-40, DF. 237-10, Tho: \$21-20. CSF:

253.31
2.00 ((m) 1. Benesian (T Wellems, 5-1 tau); 2. Pes De Memoires (11-1); 3. Ocean Line (14-1); 4. Merske Mechine (8-1), 27 ran. Sh hd, 41 J Lyrs. Tote: 51.80; 51.40, 52.00, 68.30, 52.50. DF: 526.80. Trio. E578.00. GSF 257.27. Tricket 2737.07. 11325 Cr31.07
2.30 (61) 1. Prime Lara [1 Cuinn, 10-1), 2. Double Spiendous (12-1); 3. Ahreys Aught (12-1); 4. Codeaux Cher (23-1), 1 (let 5-1); 2. Srain, 14; 11. P. Harris, Tota, C1.00, C2.30, C4.80, 54, 10, C11.10. DF; 2222 70. Trick 12.002 80. CSF, £122.68, Tricks1: \$1,423.48

E1.423.46 9.00 (1m 3) 1, Fantali (D Biggs, 7-1); 2, Night Mirago (15-2), 3, Asolina (12-1); 4, Pratisch (16-1), Applib 9-2 fav. 17-ran 3, 141 M Tompolina. Tota: P10 70; 62:30, C2-40, 25-90, 55:00, DF C51.30. Tho: C2-40, 25:00, 55:00, DF C51.30. Tho: C2-40, 25:00, 55:00, DF C51.30. Tho: 21.423.46 3.30 (SI) 1. Attach (T G McLaughin, 4-1); 2. Nobelino (5-1); 3. Belon Rose (3-1). Just Bob 11-4 fav 8 ran. 3, 1/4, R Marvin. Tole, \$3.60. \$2.10, \$2,50, \$1.10. DR: \$11.00 \$355.\$21.00.

A Company of the second

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4.00 (1m 2f) 1, Jedi Knight (t. Chemock, 7-1), 2, Essayelises (8-2 fav); 3, Clessic. Find (8-1); 4, Newbridge Boy (14-1), 17 ran. Nk, Nk, M W Besserby, Tota: £6 70; 21.90, 21.50, 24.30, Df: £12.80, Trics: £48.90, CSF: £38.95, Tricast: £252.63.

lackpot: not won (pool of £68,512.02) carried toward to Haydock Park loday). Piecepot: 5223.50. Quadpot: £70,20.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: KILMINGTON (2.00 Kempton Park) Next best: Quange (2.40 Haydock Park)

Exeter

Going: good to soft 1.20 (2m st 110vd hole) 1, King Of The-Desn (C Uswellyn, 9-2); 2, Macanonis (4-1); 3, Fill The Sit (3-1 (4-ba), Village-King 3-1 (4-ba), 11 man 31, 41 N Millachel, Tole; 55.80; £1.90, £1.50, £1.50, £1.50, DP: \$20.90 Trick £22.90, CSF £22.36.

1.50 (2m 3f hidle) 1, The Brewer (R Bellamy, evens fav): 2, Walter's Destiny (7-2): 3, Queen Of The Sulf (50-1): 6 ren. 8, dist. J Tuck, Tole: 51,70; 51.40, c2.40. DP: \$3.90, CSF: £4.37.

2.20 (2m (f 110yd ch) 1, Viking Pingship (R Johnson, 9-1); 2, Muligan (2-1); 3. Gales Cavalier (7-2). Ask Tom 7-4 fav. 6 ran. St. (dat. D Nicholson, Tobe 19.80; 12.30, 12.00. DF: 111.50. CSF: 126.31. 2.50 (2m 6f 110)(d ch) 1. Abewerd (J. Frost, 5-1); 2. Pongo Waring (7-2); 3. Shaining Light (2-1 tex), 6 nen. S., 12. R. Frost, Tolle; 57.70; 53.10, 52.20. DF: £13.20. CSF: £19.75.

3.20 (2m 11 110yd ch) 1, Ground Nut (R Dunwoody, 7-1); 2, Ambleside (9-2); 3, Zsbadi (10-11 fev), 8 ran, NP: Grosvenor Heeth, 8t, 4t, R Buckler, Tote; £7.30, £3.50, £2.10 DF: £8.90, CSF: £32.32. 3.50 (2m 3i hole) 1, Hendeon (D Seiter, 5-2); 2, Va Utu (3-1); 3, Dictum (15-8 fav). 6 cen. 1141, dist. B Miliman. Tote: \$2.90; 21.40, \$21.80. DF: \$4.70. CSF \$8.33.

4.20 (2m 1f 110yd 8et) 1, Potter Again (R Massey, 94 fav); 2, Daisy (9-2); 3, Bally Liza (7-1), 14 ran, NR; Indian Legend, 7i, 20-1, 0, Nicholson, Tota; £3.50; £1.20, £1.80, £3.70, DF; £8.60, Trio; £3.00 CSF; £10.48. Placepot: £142.60. Ouradpot: £41.40,

1.10

THUNDERER

1.10 Foundry Lane. 1.40 Carlisle Bandito's. 2.10 Regal Romper. 2.40 Saint Clel. 3.10 Laviticus. 3.40 The Proms. 4.10 Castle Clear. TOTE JACKPOT MEETING GOING: GOOD

HAYDOCK PARK

(£2,941: 2m) (15 runners)

7.4 Foundry Lane, 7-2 Prince Kinsty, 6-1 Cut De Sac. 8-1 First Light. 12-1 Landlet, Troubled Man, 14-1 Current Mony, 20-1 others.

1.40 PRESTON AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,588: 2m 4l) (6) 201 2344 ROPENC SPREZE 8 (V.F.S.) M Pape 5-12-0 ... 6 Ellios (5) 202 34-2 MITHERAC 42 (F) W Commingless 5-11-0 ... 5 Disack (7) 203 42-4 CATHERAC 5 CHOICE 264 M Hammond 4-10-6 C Borner (3) 204 225- CARLISLE SAMOTTO'S 165 (F) J.Bary 5-10-4 Miss F Rotsco (3) 205 595- CRICIA ATEM 228 (F.C.S.) b McCab 11-10-0 ... 6 Lake (7) 206 1007- MCCAE JOE 155 (0.F.G.S.) M Tale 11-10-0 ... 0 McPhall (7)

2.10 GAMEKEEPERS HANDICAP CHASE (£5,368: 2m) (5)

301 - 331 SPANISH LIGHT 5 (CD.F.S) Sr. J Barton Rt. 8-12-0 . P. Meen 129 302 314 MONYMAN 195 (SF.D.F.G) M Hammand 7-11-1J . R Bantity 125 303 303- BANNAGEBA BOY 254 (D.S.S. W Marks R-11-9 . T Jonks 120 AND 195 MERCH 195 11 SF Rysol (S) 107 AND 195 MERCH 195 MERC 195 MERCH 195 MERCH 195 MERCH 195 MERCH 195 MERCH 195 MERCH 195 6-4 Suas Leal, 7-2 Monamen. 4-1 Regal Romper, 9-2 Spanish Light. 8-1 Barnagania Boy

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRABERS: F. Jordan, 4 misners from 10 miners. 40.0%, J. Fötgeräld, 13 from 47, 27.7%, G. Pichards, 26 from 102, 25.5%; J. Old, 3 from 12, 25.0%, T. Tale, 4 from 16, 25.0%.

JOCKEYS: E. Callaghan, 3 miners from 6 rides, 50.0%; C. Llewellyn, 13 from 52, 25.0%. A Magnire, 19 from 46, 21.7%; C. Maude, 5 from 35, 19.2%; A. Dobbin, 11 from 63, 17.5%.

THUNDERER

$1.50\,$ J C MILTON SHE'S FINALLY SOME

2 11P. GENERAL CRACK 340 F.G.S) P Michaels 8-18-7

Mr.J Tozzard (5) 3 20-5 EVANGELICA 32 (CD.F.S) M Pise 7-10-0 A P NICOUY 4 110- FLOW 285 (CD.F.S) R Busike 8-10-0 P NICOUY 5 113- MAPLE DANCER 424 (F.E.S) A Hobbs 11-10-0 & Sheekin (7) 4-7 See More Bookers, 7-2 Septem Cock, 7-1 Removaliza, 12-1 Flow, 20-1 Mayie Dancer.

3.10 BIRCHFIELD JUYENKE NOVICES HURDLE

NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £3,701: 3m) (4) 601 190P TWO FOR ONE 4 (8,D,F,6,5) More 1, Ressell 6-11-12 P Carbony 96 802 225- ALASKAM HERR 185 Ny.9F,6,5) A Streets 6-11-2 ... I Giby 100 126-180 235- BMALDRE STAR 173 Mes H Kong 1-7-11-2 ... J Calibration 104 210 114

10-11 The Proms 5-4 Baylane Ster, 14-1 Abedian Herr 16-1 Two For One

MATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,278: 2m) (16)

3-1 Stramblehill Dake, 9-2 Castle Clear, 7-1 Wilesdon, 8-1 Bag Peric., 10-1 Hussi Plyer, Trio Di The Trade, 12-1 Cause, Jack Robbo 14-1 Others:

NEWTON ABBOT

1.20 Barnapour, 1,50 Sam Rockett. 2.20 See More Business. 2.50 Dolce Notte, 3.20 Dr Leunt. 3.50 Tidal Force. 4.20 St Mellion Stream.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

7.20 WEST COUNTRY FESTIVAL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (E2,840; 2m 110yd) (10 rumbers)
1 1143 BAMAPOUR 15 (B.F.S.S.) M Ppp 7-12-0
6 04U- HISH MOOD 195 T Georgia 7-10-4 D J Krewstopie 6 7 6-20 REFLEX HAMMER 5 J Messia 6-40-3 R Supple 6-833 ALL CLEAR 20 (D.C.S) R Alone 6-10-0 P Holds 9-0-20 UP THE TEARCH 4-7 Framel 8-10-0 G Youris 10 6-55 POOK STUKK 15 R Fraig 7-10-0 J Fra
5-2 Samapore, 7-2 Tight Fist, 6-1 Reflect Haramer, 8-1 Wiscos Wonder, Pair I Jacks, Westerhall Polity, 18-1 Ak Clear, 14-1 places

HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,253: 2m 1l) (9)

5-2 Sam Roskett, 3-1 Spot Of Fools, 7-2 Reach The Clouds, 6-1 Same Discours, 7-1 Docklands Courier, 10-1 Prisce the Bezry, 25-1 Mistress Reste, 33-1 others.

2.20 SPA-TRANS HANDICAP CHASE (£6,801: 3m 2t 110yd) (5)

ED, DUT : - OHT 21 T COYNG 1997 1 22F- SEE MORE BUSINESS 256 (E.S) P Necholis 7-11-10 7 J Manyahy

2.40 GERARD HANDICAP HURDLE (52,773: 2m) (8) 401 362- PRIZERGHUER 175 (D.F) B Licuschyn 6-12-0 Mr J L Lieuschyn 129 402 GGD-CENTAUR EXPRESS 279 (D.S.) A Sweles 5-11-11 Teley 120 403 105- GLANGO 283 (G) J Fitogradi 5-11-2 P Carborny 130 404 165- FOR TERRIER 155 (D.F.S.) F Muttagh 5-10-13 A Doublem 124 405-4002 FM A DREAMER 15 (D.F.G.) Next Fundang 7-10-11 P Mutgley (5) 405-407 178 (SERTIER 25 (G) SECOLOSI F Locks 9-10-5 A Magnity 124 406 745 SAMIT CRI. 25 (SF COLOSI F Locks 9-10-5 A Magnity 124 406 745 GENERIAL S ORDERS 800 (D.F.S.) J Tuster 6-10-0 J Supple

5-2 Thronge, 3-1 Quango, 5-1 Saint Clet, 7-1 Prozefighter, Centaur Express, 10-Fen Temer, I'm A Dreamer, 20-1 General's Orders.

(3-Y-O. £2,913: 2m) (15)

9-4 Levilitus, 11-2 Sandhaggedagam, 13-2 Foreign Rule, 7-1 Russian Aspect. Juliahom Jure, 8-1 Benyillum, 10-1 others.

3.40 GLENGOYNE HIGHLAND MALT WHISKY

15-8 Militrato, 2-1 Nordio Bregge, 7-2 Cartiste Bantillo's, 4-1 Catherine's Choice, 12-1 Circulation, 20-1 Notice Jue. 4.10 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN

2.50 ROGERS OF PLYMOUTH NOVICES HURDLE (£2,243; 3m 3l) (11)

4 River Challenge, 2-1 Dokto Name, 4-1 Royal Par Black, 8-1 Silor Savernor, 16 Tammiy Cooper, 25-1 Lauren's Tressuire, Via Del Custro, 33-1 offers. 3.20 GEOFFREY BOND NOVICES CHASE (£6,775: 3m 2f 110yd) (4)

1 50-1 DR LEUNT 14 (6.5) P Hobbs 6-11-5 R Dunwood 2 1121 GALATASOR JANE 7 (0.5.6) P Mctods 7-11-6 R P McC 3 111- STRONG CHARMAN 1939 (f.6) P Mctods 6-11-0 T J Murph 4 PS-0 BJAZING MARACLE 14 Mrs R Henderson 6-10-7 O Sal 4-5 On Legal, 13-8 Strong Chairman, 6-1 Galateson Jane, 50-1 Blezing Allicacie

3.50 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,524: 2m 6l) (5)

5-4 Tatal Force 2-1 Denail Doncer, 3-1 Influence Profee, 7-1 SI Ville 20-1 Payle-5

4.20 J C MILTON I'VE FOUND LOVE AT HIGHBURY OPEN NH FLAT RACE (£1,214: 2m 1f) (6)

55- COSY RUDE 201 N Twiston-Daviet 5-11-4 J Goldstein (7)
EASTDON GOLD DUST A Hobbs 4-11-4 NE A Pergusald
ORSWELL THATENSWELL P Hobbs 5-11-4 R Durwenody
SPORTMING CHANGE B Frost 5-11-4 J First
ST MELLION STREAM M Pipe 5-11-4 A P Nactory
1000R BLONDE P Purey 6-10-13 S Burnstign 1-2 St Melton Stream, 4-1 Ossaellitatensnell, 5-1 Cosy Ride, 20-1 Sporting Chance, 25-1 Eastdon Gold Data, 50-1 Testor Blonds

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSERS: R Phillips. 3 venous from 8 numers. 37.5%; P Hobbs. 53 hour 174, 30.5%; J Old. 9 from 32, 28.1%; M Pipe, 101 from 379, 26.9%; P Michelle, 36 from 142, 25.4%.

JOCKEYS: R Dummody, 62 witnines from 191 rules, 32.5%; A P Meckey 53 from 166, 31.9%; C Webb, 4 from 16, 25.0%, 1 J Marphy 7 from 37, 18.9%; G Tomay, 7 from 38, 18.4%

0930 168+ COMMENTARY KEMPTON 101 HAYDOCK 102 202 N. ABBOT 103 203 IRISH **| 120 | 220 |** FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

tional Classic in Kowloon. meet, let alone beat, the world champions and we could not believe what we had done, to tell his friends and family.

Such shocks are prone to

Light and Power.

Hong Kong's official repre-

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL Kick-off 7:30 unless stated European Cup Champions' League Group A Borussa Dortmund v Parma (7 45) Galafasaray v Sparta Prague (7 45)

Group B Feyenoord v Man Utd (7 45) ... Juvenius v FC Kosica (7 45) ... Group C Barcelona v Dynamo Kiev (7 45) ... Newcastle v PSV Eindhoven (7 45)

Group D FC Pono v Rosenborg (7 45) . . . Olympiakos v Real Madnd (7.45) . . Group E IFK Gothenburg v Besiklas (7.45) . Pans S-G v Bayern Munich (7.45)

Group F Bayer Leverlusen v Sp Lisbon (7 45) a Lierse Sk v AS Monaco (7 45) Nationwide League First division

Middlesbrough v Portsmouth (7 45)

Swindon v QPR (7.45)

Third division Singrifori v Barner (7 45) Bell's Scottish League Second division Clydebani v Queen Of South

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Cup: First round, second leg: Strangbourne (3) DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Cup: First round, second log: Stringbourne (3)**
V Cravity (3), Wisbech Town (0) v Cravitham (1)
FA CARLSBERG VASE: First round replay: Porthleven v Swindon Super-matrie: Newbury AFC v Endsteigh AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION.
First division: Southamption v Tottenham Horspur (at Staplewood); Watford v: Oueens Park Rangiers (at Northwood FC): Wimbledon v Luton (at Plough Lane, 20) - Postgomed: Ipswech v West Ham United.)
Postgomed: Ipswech v West Ham United.)

Postgoned; Ipowich v West Ham Unded, S. PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Cup: Group one; Oldriam v Burnley (all Stalybodge Celtic FC; 701 Group two: Sheffield United v. Scurthorp (at 100 valley Sacdum, 70); Group street. Walsall v Leicester (70); Group four: Stockport v Bury (at Hydig. United FC, 70); Wigan v Stoke (70); Group sto: Rotherham v Blackpool (70); ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE; First division: Perinth v Murton WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First divisions Confinition vo Creshism.

SCREWFIX DIFFECT LEAGUE: Premier divisions Bridgori v Bidelord Tomoglon v Barnstape JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Soham v Newmarket; Stowmarket v Febusione Portand Town
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Cower Sports v Ryde Sports, a Eastleigh v Gosport, League; Deveronvalle v Nastn County, (8.0). FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Shrewshury

v Boldmere St M. Bradford v Nureaton. Bournemouth v Gillingham, Huddersfield v York. Third qualifying round replay-Wembley v Walton and Hersham. SCHOOLS MATCHES: Boodle and Dunthome Cup: Bollon v Wellingborbugh; Shrewsbury v Si Bades: RUGBY UNION

Tour matches

London Irish v New South Wates (7:30) Oxford Univ v Tonga (7 30) RUGBY LEAGUE Tour Match Wales Students v Queensland Students (at UWIC RUFC, 7.0)



United put accent on fluency in **Dutch test**

FROM OLIVER HOLT, POOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THEY know here, in the heartland of Dutch football. that Manchester United have scored 13 goals in their past two games. They know that their visitors are on a hot streak and, when the English champions landed here yesterday lunchtime, ready for their European Cup Champions' League tie against Feyenoord tonight, the home fans could have been forgiven for sniffing the air and smelling the acrid scent of scorched earth.

United are leaving a trail of woe and destruction behind them as they go, rampaging through the FA Carling Premiership and carrying all before them in Europe, too. The way things are going, opposing coaches will soon be

demanding danger money to play Alex Ferguson's team: first Arie Haan, the Feyenoord coach, lost his job in the wake of his side's 2-1 defeat at Old Trafford a fortnight ago, then David Pleat paid the penalty for Sheffield Wednesday's 6humiliation at Old Trafford

on Saturday. On the short flight from Manchester yesterday, the players were pictures of relaxation and quiet but unshakeable _confidence. When they arrived at their hotel on the outskirts of the city, the same hotel that United used before they beat Barcelona in the 1991 Cup Winners' Cup final here, all the talk was of the great strides that they have made in their approach to the Champi-

ons' League since last season. Peter Schmeichel, the United goalkeeper and captain, gave an eloquent explanation how attitudes have changed. He even suggested that the narrow margin of United's victory against Feyenoord last month had spurred the team to their subsequent superlative performances against Barnsley and Wednesday.

"We have played games this season where we did not take all our chances," Schmeichel said. "I thought the Feyenoord. match was one where we should have done much better and we went into the Barnsley game saying to ourselves that what we did in that match was not right. Then we went out and scored seven goals. It was a good response.

We have all really enjoyed the Champions' League this season. We realise we have got a chance of winning it. We are more determined now. We also know we did not do as well as we should have done last year, but we learnt a lot from that and that is evident from the way we are playing. We feel we have found a way to play these games. We have found the necessary patience and discipline. We have got that recipe right now."

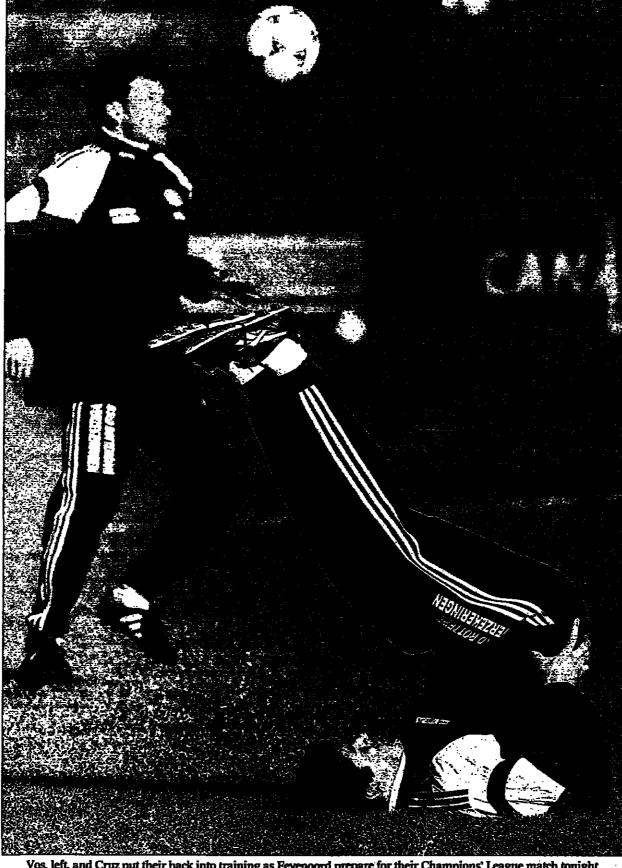
Feyenoord, by contrast, seem to be struggling with a mix of unpalatable ingredients. Their loss at Old Trafford was followed by a 4-0 walloping at the hands of their great rivals, Ajax, which was the last straw for Haan. Geert Meijer, his assistant, was giv-en temporary control, but some reports suggest that Feyenoord are about to appoint Leo Beenhakker, the former Real Madrid coach, as

Haan's full-time successor. United should be too strong for the Dutch and a win in the De Kuip Stadium, coupled with the formality of victory over FC Kosice in a fortnight is almost certain to see United through to the quarter-finals.

"We have got off to a dream start," Ferguson said. "We group. If we do that, that is it. Everyone has a chance in football and so do Feyenoord tomorrow. I have seen some funny results in my life and that won't stop, but hopefully there won't be one here."

FETENOORD (probable; 5-32); J Dudek

- Uvan Gobbel, K van Wonderen, F Prour,
B Schulternen, P Graff — P Bosvelt, J P van
Gastel, G van Bronckhorst — J Cruz, D
Connolly, Makkers



Vos, left, and Cruz put their back into training as Feyenoord prepare for their Champions' League match tonight

Parma pledge to attack in Dortmund

BORUSSIA Dortmund, the defending European champions, who have won only three matches out of 13 in the Bundesliga this season, will hope to recapture at least some of last season's form when they entertain Parma in tonight's European Cup Champions' League match, having lost 1-0 in Italy a

A win would take the Germans to the top of group A, the only one in which the top two clubs play each other tonight. Carlo Ancelotti, the Parma coach, has nicked an attacking side, hoping to take

advantage of the absence of several key Borussia defenders. Ancelotti said Saturday's 1-0 league defeat by Internazionale, which dropped Parma to third place in Serie A, was a "normal episode against a powerful opponent". He added: "Our teamwork should prevail."

Nevio Scala, the former Parma coach who is now in charge at Dortmund, will be without the injured Matthias Sammer, Jürgen Kohler and Stephane Chapuisat. "If you want to visit the Dortmund team, you have to drive to the hospital," Gazzetta dello Sport said

recently. "We're not dead. We'll play a great game," Scala promised on behalf of s patched up side. In group D. Real Madrid, who have

nine points after three matches, will be without Roberto Carlos, who is suspended, against Olympiakos. The Spaniards beat the Greeks 5-1 two weeks ago.

Bayern Munich, who lead group E, are expecting tough opposition from Paris Saint-Germain, who have won only one of three games. "For Paris, it's the last chance, they will try to explode." Thomas Helmer, the Bayern captain, said.

Dalglish forced to put trust in Tomasson

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT MIGHT seem heretical to uggest it, but Kenny Dalglish is an amusing, affable character. Outside a small circle of friends, however, it is a closely guarded secret. The Newcastle United man-

ager has always suffered from a negative image in the media, mostly because he cannot suppress a natural, suspicious instinct. His press conferences can be torture. Yet, for all that, Daiglish has none of the abrasiveness of, for example, Alex Ferguson. When Fergu-son is irked, the whole world knows it. With Dalglish, it is barely detectable, beyond, perhaps, a frostier edge to his taut

Yesterday, looking forward to Newcastle's European Cup Champions' League contest with PSV Eindhoven tonight, Gone was the Siberian silence, replaced by a rare passion in his condemnation of what he perceives as an capabilities

attitude that hangs around the club like a bad smell" The odour, you will not be surorised to hear, was generated the media. There has been a disparaging attitude to-wards his side, he said, despite a reasonable start in the FA Carling Premiership and a better than expected showing in the Champions' League.

We have had trying circumstances and yet performed with pride in adversity," he said. "Look at our results and then say that we are not producing. We beat Barcelona and they proved when they won 3-2 at Real Madrid the other night that they are indisputably a great side. They are seven points clear in Spain and that says it all. We drew in Kiev, and Dynamo bear Barcelona 3-0. I think that result was far better than: we got the credit for.

We did lose against PSV, but they are a very good side, too. We came away from Holland with people talking as if they were an easy team to play, but they are a very dangerous side and people who say otherwise are just trying to distort our situation." Yet, for all his passion, there

is a pessimism seeping into even the most ardent of Newcastle supporters. Dalglish is right to point to important results in Europe and the Premiership, but most were achieved with the help if Faustino Asprilla. Without him, the team is impotent. The loss of Alan Shearer was a bad

could lead the line capably alone. Without him, there is no defences. Tonight, Dalglish David Batty and Robert Lee. doubts about Gillespie, Barton and Pistone and Newcastle's squad is severely stretched.

Much responsibility now falls on the shoulders of Jon Dahl Tomasson, the young Dane who scored his first goa for the club on Saturday. That much, at least, was a relief. "I have been under pressure in the last couple of weeks, but not just from the lack of a goal," Tomasson said yester day. "I have been trying to well. I have always played in midfield before and now I am playing with my back to goal. But I believe in myself in front of goal and I will always give

Eindhoven have their own and De Bilde doubtful, but Dalglish may prove prophetic in his assertion that PSV are a better side than people have given them credit for. It is Newcastie will conjour a goal from Dalglish can not be blamed for the injuries to Rush and Asprilla, but with Shearer injured, should he have sold Ferdinand and

Risking Dalglish further, it has to be said that qualification for the quarter-finals is an unlikely prospect, but, as Tomasson said, the team's supporters can almost win a game by themselves and those who witnessed the destruction of Barcelona for 60 magical minutes will not dare to dismiss Newcastle's chances lightly.

Pick up the phone PICK UP A



/4 FEYENOORD 12/5 DRAW MAN. UTD. 10/11

7	Kick-off 7.45pm, Live on Regional ITV.						
À	CORRECT SCORE			LT			
Z	FEYERCORD SCORE MARL UTD.	H/TUME	F/TIME				
	7/15/1	PEYENOORD	FEYENOORD	9/2			
-	11/1	FEYENOCRD	DRAW	14/1			
	11/12-1	FEYENOORD	MANLUTO.	25/1			
G	33/114/1			13/2			
	33/116/1			9/2			
	33/13-233/1			.9/2			
X.	6/16/1						
	5/15/1						
	20/12-220/1	MAN. UTD	MANLUTD.	2/1			
		Bets void if 2nd half not started.					
	LATEST ODDS ON William Hill TV TEXT - Teletaxt on CM F60/F62/F63						

Rioch and Hamilton eye vacancy at Wednesday

BRUCE RIOCH, the former Arsenal manager, and Bryan Hamilton, recently dismissed by Northern Ireland, vesterday expressed an interest in the managerial vacancy at

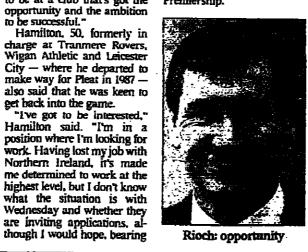
Sheffield Wednesday. Rioch, who managed Mid-dlesbrough, Millwall and Bolton Wanderers before spending a year at Highbury. until the arrival of Arsene Wenger 14 months ago, said: "I have heard nothing at all from Sheffield Wednesday. but I am interested in going back into management at some stage if the job and the people are right. It would have to be at a club that's got the opportunity and the ambition to be successful." Hamilton, 50, formerly in

Wigan Athletic and Leicester City - where he departed to make way for Pleat in 1987 also said that he was keen to get back into the game. "I've got to be interested," Hamilton said. "I'm in a position where I'm looking for work. Having lost my job with Northern Ireland, it's made me determined to work at the highest level, but I don't know what the situation is with

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

in mind I have a lot of experience, I would be one of those under consideration." Tony Hale, the West Bromwich Albion chairman, was surprised at speculation linking his manager, Ray Harford, with the job because Wednesday have yet to show an interest. Harford is believed to be the front-runner to succeed Pleat, whose 29-month reign at Hillsborough ended after Wednesday's 6-1 defeat away to Manchester United consigned them to the

the foot of the FA Carling



West Bromwich chief executive, John Wile, have all dismissed the conjecture, even though the manager is open to offers because he has

yet to sign a contract. Hale said: "I believe Wednesday want a quick appointment and I think if they were interested we would have heard by now, but there's been nothing. Ray Harford is at the club doing his normal duties and he seems to be happy with us. Anyway, when I mentioned the speculation to him, he just

Hale's dismissive comments were strengthened by the fact that David Richards, the Wednesday chairman. and the club secretary. Graham Mackrell, were in London yesterday, albeit on business unrelated .. to

Hale added: "Obviously, no manager is safe whether he has signed a contract or not. but Ray has got more and-more involved with West Brom over the past few months he has been at The Hawthorns. His heart seems to be in the club. Why would he want to join Sheffield Wednesday when he is getting things right with Albion?"

MONDAY'S LATE

faltire):

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Worcester 2 St Leonards 0. Cup
Preliminary round, first leg: Dertord 3
Fisher 5: Newport AFC 3 Witney 1.

FA CARLSBERG VASE: First-round
replay: RTM Newcestle 0 Kidsgrove 1.

AVON INSURANCE COMBRIVATION:
First division: Chelses 5 Swindon 2;
Oxford United 1 Milwell 0.

DANTINES: LEAGUE COMB.

PONTIN'S LEAGUE CUP: Group five; Barnsley 1 York 1. RYTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE Invitation Cup: Oktoury 1 lbstock Wel-fare 3.

tare 3.

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Rotherham 0 Bury 1; Enfield 5 Stevenage 1.

UEFA UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP:
Qualifying group eight: Northern Ireland
1 Croatia 2. SPANISH LEAGUE: Merida 1 Valoncia ARGENTINE LEAGUE: Argentinos Ju-

niors 3 Estudiantes 2.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Trophy: Under-19: Staffordshire 3 Worcesteshire 2 Midlands divisional Trophy; Under-19: First round: Wolverhampton 0 Briddy H9 and Dudley 4. Boodle and Durthome Cup: Halleybury 1 Bon 3.

VOMEN'S FA CUP: Third-round draw: Truro City or Swindon Spitines v Berry Town: British v Southempton; Cardiff County v Portematin: Blowleth Town v Loughborough Students or Highfield Rangers; Carety Recers v Armold Town Rangers, Carrery Racers v Arnold Youn;
Coverity City v Barrengham City, Astori
Villa v Wolsenhammon, Wandesers,
Beaston Town v Derby County; Huddersfield Town v Leeds City, Liverpool Feds v
Streffield Wednesday, Blyth Spartan
Kestrals v Garawood Samier; Olidhem v
Prestion North End; Warrington Grange v
Newcastle Town; Stockport v Bleckburi
Rovers, Wernbley MRI HSI v Whiteheak;
Brighton or Hamplen v Lengford or
Chelmskord, Three Bridges v Wetfordand Evergreen; Cueen's Park Rangers v
Wirnbledon, Leyton Odent v Reading
Royals; Futham v Tottenham Hotspur;
West Ham United v Chariton or Abbey
Rangers; Hendon or Hackney v St
Georges (Eltham) or Surbiton.

LI Ties to be played on November 30.

Swindon cast net for goalkeeper

By Russell Kempson

prospect of playing against Queens Park Rangers at the County Ground tonight without a recognised goalkeeper. Steve McMahon, the Swindon manager, is even considering using an outfield player in goal for the Nationwide League first division match. Fraser Digby and Frank Talia, Swindon's senior goalkeepers, are unable to play because of injury. Digby has damaged chest muscles and Talia has knee problems. Steve Mildenhall, who deputised in the 1-0 victory against Portsmouth at Fration Park last Friday, sustained a

and is also unfit. Although McMahon asked the Football League for an extension to the deadline of noon yesterday to enable him to bring in a goalkeeper on loan, his request was declined. We had a couple of players in the pipeline, but the League, would not extend the dead-line," McMahon said. "Quite honestly, I'm very disappointed with their lack of co-operation. In fact, we are inthe process of writing a letter of complaint to them."

groin injury during the game

Swindon's only available goalkeeper is Anthony Better-

SWINDON Town face the ton, 17, who plays for the club's youth team. McMahon does not want to risk him but is running out of options. "I haven't a clue what I'm going

The 1998 World Cup final on July 12 will kick-off at 9pm, the French organising committee aumounced yesterday. The opening game on June 10 will kick-off at 5.30µm, while all ten World Cup stadioms will have at least one evening match apart, from Bordeaux, for reasons of television camera angles in the setting sun. Each stadium will also have one early-afternoon match.

First-round matches will kick-off at 2.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm and 9pm Second round and quarter-final matches will start at either 4.30pm or 9pm. The semi-finals and final will start at

However, in order to optimise television audiences in other time zones. Fifa, the world governing body, may make adjustments and exact kick-off times for the 48 firstround matches will only be announced at the World Cup draw in Marseilles on December 4. The late starts contrast with USA 94, where many matches kicked off at midday.

Football's coming home. Liferally.



FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN KUALA LUMPUR

ENGLAND'S standing for the defence next week of the world team championship rose a few points here yester-day when their captain, Chris Walker, of Essex, halted a personal slump by defeating Paul Johnson, of Kent, 12-15, 15-10, 15-6, 15-7 in a 56-minute first-round match of the

World Open championship. Walker, a 30-year-old with a penchant for flamboyant strokeplay, has lost in every significant first round since reaching the last 16 of the Alahram International in June. For a time yesterday, it seemed that Johnson, a fellow left-hander and a potential replacement for England next week, might extend the barren run to six, but the presence of Neil Harvey, an England selector, in Walker's corner seemed to relax the team captain enough for him to rediscover the athletic volleying that is the foundation of his game.

Harvey's prime responsi-bility this week is to his personal protégé, Peter Nicol, another left-hander but of Scottish descent, who started yesterday with a crisp 32-minute 15-7, 15-8, 15-7 win over

Stephen Meads. The day was, in fact, a British tour de force in the bottom half of a World Open. draw that, for the first time in 21 years, is not to be defended by the reigning champion in this case, Jansher Khan, of

Pakistan. Two Welshmen, Alex Gough and David Evans, a qualifier, went through to the second round and Walker was joined by Simon Parke, the England No I, Mark Cairns, the British champion. and Mark Chaloner. Only the No 5 seed, Ahmed Barada, of Egypt, broke the impressive string of British successes by defeating Tony Hands in an hour-long, four-game

Today's session of play features the top half of the first-round draw, with Del. Harris and Peter Marshall leading a five- strong contingent from Britain.

RUGBY UNION: SPONSOR TO SIGN THREE-YEAR DEAL AS ITV CONFIRMS PLAN TO SCREEN ENGLAND

Five nations countries bank £15m

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE rugby's leading clubs are staring at a sizeable deficit on this season's trading, the sport as a whole remains the recipient of considerable commercial interest Today, ITV will confirm its plans for the broadcasting of England inpernationals this season — albeit delayed transmissions

- and tomorrow the five nations' championship will become sponsored for the first

It is expected that Lloyds TSB will announce support worth £15 million for the championship over the next three years, a sum that will be. divided equally between the five countries. After the temporary rift last year between England and the other three home unions, the agreement will go a long way towards healing relationships and, possibly, some bruised egos.

It will come, however, at the cost of some of the game's oldest friends: the Royal Bank of Scotland has supported internationals at Murraylield since 1982 and the introduction of Lloyds may also conclude the arrangements of two other financial institutions, Irish Permanent and Societé Générale, with Ireland and

France respectively.

Yet the wave of new money coming into the game -England alone have reached accords this season with Carlsberg Tetley and Nike will give other potential investors confidence, a feeling that will bolster the cash-strapped Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs as they try to come to terms with the demands of professionalism. Saracens, for example, believe that interest is such that they will break even next season, despite an adverse balance sheet for the past financial year of £2.2

million and a likely deficit this

year of around £1 million. Saracens, second in the Premiership, have just published their first consolidated accounts, which demonstrate the leap ambitious clubs have had to take in expenditure. Nigel Wray's initial investment of £2.5 million when he purchased the club has received a further £1 million, but Saracens' own projections, based on gate receipts at Watford of no more than 5,500, suggest that they will.

phrase of Mike Smith, their

chief executive — by 1999.

"We see a future in the game." Smith said. "Corporate revenue has increased by 136 per cent on last year, with over £1 million coming in, and people are already buying hospitality boxes at Watford for next season." Admittedly, Saracens started at a lower base than nearly all their competitors in the first division — hence, for example, the expenditure of £800,000 on last season at Enfield, which

ultimately proved fruitless. Yet, as an example, they cite the difference in crowd figures for their most recent opponents. Bristol: at their old Bramley Road headquarters in 1995-96, they drew 600; at Enfield, they attracted nearly 1,600 and last weekend they pulled in 4,200. Though the attendance figures themselves are relatively small, they represent a huge percentage in-crease which is reflected in

season-ticket sales, too. They plan to launch before the end of the year a £200,000 development scheme that is aimed at taking rugby into the Watford community and using their star players in a "lifestyle" campaign: interna-tional players like Philippe Sella, Francois Pienaar and Richard Hill will go into schools and clubs to bear to

youngsters the positive messages of sport.
The wage bill for such players - Saracens employed 86 salaried staff, players, coaches and administrators during 1996-97 - amounted to £1.58 million last year, but Smith contends that the club is not paying inflated wages, adding: "It is the only business I have been involved in where have to look after my competitors." That is to say, the first division clubs need to

keep each other afloat to

ensure a viable competition. At the bottom of the division. Bristol are no nearer securing their financial future after Monday's annual meet-ing. Shareholders: agreed to remove a clause prohibiting one individual holding more than a 24 per cent stake in the club and the directors are talking to two firms about possible investment, while contemplating the sale land used by their mini and junior stop bleeding money - the teams.



Lomu is a menacing sight as he steps up the pace in the first training session of the All Blacks' tour yesterday

England promise to stand by Stimpson

ENGLAND'S management hinted yesterday that Newcastle's decision to put Tim Stimpson on the transfer list will not harm his prospects of playing full back in the forthcoming series of internationals against the southern-hemisphere countries. "It is a personal issue between him and the club, but it won't affect his position with England," a spokesman

Nevertheless, if Stimpson is not pla ing first-team rugby, it will hardly help his prospects. He has first to indicate his recovery from a thigh injury before the XV to play Australia at Twickenham on November 15 is confirmed, probably next Monday, with Newcastle due to play Castres on Sunday in the quarter-finals

of the European Conference. Alex King, the Wasps fly half, who is also recovering from injury, is determined to press his claims for a first start for England against Australia. King, 22, has not played since suffering a minor cartilage tear in the home league defeat by Saracens 2½ weeks ago, but he is confident that he will be fit to return for the Heineken Cup quarter-final against

SCHOOLS MATCH; Queen Elizabeth, Barnet 7 St Albens 38

SOUASH

KUALA LUMPUR: Men's world champjorship: First round: P Neol (Scot) bl S
Meeds (Eng) 15-7. 15-8, 15-7; D Evens
(Males) bt C Rowland (Juss) 9-18, 15-11, 1513. 15-10: A Berada (Egypat bt T Hands
(Eng) 12-18, 15-9, 15-7; M Chetoner
(Eng) bt M Heisther (Scot) 15-8, 11-5, 15-13,
15-3; S Parks (Eng) bt C vers der Wates) bt P
Gregory (Gr) 15-9, 15-13, 15-12; M Cairrs
(Eng) bt K Low (Maleysia) 15-8, 15-11, 15-9,
NEW YORK: Carol Weynnuller Open:
Semi-Enals: S Pttt-Gerald (Aus) bt S Winght
(Eng) 2-9, 9-5, 9-2, 9-6; M Mentin (Aus) bt L
Iving (Aus) 9-6, 9-4, 9-5.

TENNIS

STOCKHOLM: Stockholm Open: First round: G Russide (GB) by N Kuff (Swe) 7-6, 6-4; I Muster (Austin) by C Ruud (Nor) 6-3, 6-1; L Roux (Fr) by A Berszategul (Sp) 6-2, 6-1; L Roux (Fr) by A Berszategul (Sp) 6-2, 6-1, 6-4; M Larson (Swe) by F Johnsson (Swe) 7-5, 7-5; M Gustinfason (Swe) 27 M Ondruska (SA) 6-2, 6-2, K Kucera (Stovena) by G Radux (Fr) 8-4, 6-3; J van Herck (Bel) bt H Hohn (Swe) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3

MOSCOW: Kremitin Cup: First round: G Nuerran (Br) to S Schelben (Holl) 6-7, 7-6; H Dreetmann (Ger) by A Volkov (Russ) 3-6, 6-4, 7-5; K Carisen (Den) by M Safin (Russ) 7-5, 6-7, 7-8; B Uhlmach (C2) by A Radulescu (Ger) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; P Korda (C2) by J Tarrango (US) 4-8, 7-5, 6-3; P Korda (C2) by J Tarrango (US) 4-8, 7-5, 6-3; P Korda (C2) by J Hammus (Holl) 7-6-3, 6-4

SANTIAGO, Chille: Chevrolet Cup: First round: M Puerta (Arg) by G Blanco (Sp) 8-4, 6-3; M Cracz (Se) by La Marin (SD) 7-5, 6-1; R Varsex (C2) by Focked (Arg) 6-4, 7-6-1; A Stocked (Arg) 6-4, 7-6-1; G Stockerskin (Cn) by C Crack (Sp) 6-6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by I Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-4; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-7, 6-5; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-7, 6-6; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-7, 6-6; A Fazzier (LS) by J Nelectly (Can) 6-3, 6-7, 6-7, 6-3, 6-3

Brive, the holders, at Loftus Road on Sunday.

The injury is responding well to treatment. I have the confidence in my own mind that it will be all right and the mental side can be as important as anything," he said.

Louis Luyt, president of the South African Rugby Football Union, with-stood a challenge from Keith Parkinson, of Natal, and Mluleki George, of Border, at the union's annual meeting yesterday and will remain in office for a further two

Rusedski

fights infection TENNIS: Greg Rusedski, the Great Britain

No 1, is struggling to be fit for his second-round match in the Stockholm Open tomarrow. Rusedski, who beat Nicklas Kulti, of Sweden, an Monday to book his place at next week's ATP Championships in Hanover, was advised by a doctor to take two days complete rest before his next match, against Lionel

Roux, of France. Rusedski said yesterday: "I have a virus infection. Ì have spent all day in bed, my head is still hurting and l feel pretty bad. I plan to have another day in bed and see how I feel on Thursday." Tim Henman, the British No 2, will meet Magnus Gustafsson in the second round. The Swede beat Marcos Ondruska, of

South Africa, yesterday. Breakthrough

HOCKEY: Slough and Southgate will become the first English women's clubs in the 26-year history of the competition to host the A division of the European club championship next April (Cathy Harris writes). Their joint-bid has been accepted by the European Hockey Federation (EHF), whose competitions secretary, Martin Gotheridge, estimated that the clubs will have to raise around £10,000 to stage the event.

Whirlwind

SNOOKER: Jîmray White required only 58 minutes at Malvern vesterday to whitewash Justin Smalley 5-0 and earn a place in the last 32 of the Benson and Hedges Championship. White, relegated from the game's top 16 at the end of last season, must win the tournament in order to earn an automatic place in the Masters at Wembley next February, Brian Morgan, the holder of the title, also reached the seventh round.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Goodway calls for more aggression

By Christopher Irvine

WHILE conceding that there is a fine line between aggresis a fine line between aggression and indiscipline, Andy Goodway, the Great Britain coach, feels that his side was too tame in defeat against Australia at Wembley. It is a fault that he wants to address before the second British Gas international at Old Trafford on Saturday.

"As well as learning to tough it out mentally, we need to become more physical. I'm not suggesting we go round knocking heads off, but we should be taking the game to them. Goodway, who was never afraid in his playing career to test a referee's tolerance limits, said.

Injuries permitting, Good-way intends to name his team today. Most changes are expected in the pack, which could mean a starting place for Adrian Morley and a first call up for Simon Haughton. with Chris Joynt pushed into the front row to supplement their strong running.

Goodway's options are limited by the continued absence of the injured lestyn Harris, Keiron Cunningham and Stu-

from outside his 21-strong

squad.
"We had a good, long talk about bringing people in from outside, but I think we've got to look at all the options in the squad," Goodway said. "We are not panicking. It's a case of looking at the different

combinations." Goodway feels that he can-not call on better players, so it is his job to extract better performances, which puts a big emphasis on the choice at half back and whether to stick with Andy Farrell, who is playing out of his normal loose forward position, and

Bobbie Goulding. Farrell was far from a qualified success at No 6 last Saturday, but he remains probably the best option in that role, although Sean Long should provide backup on the bench. That leaves Goodway the thorny decision of whether to replace Goulding at scrum half with Martin Crompton, who was due to rejoin the squad yesterday after return-ing from holiday.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Kansas City 13 Pilisburgh 10.

BASKETBALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte 112 Mem) 99; Chicago 87 Sen Antonio 83 (2nd OT): Weshington 90 Utah 96.
CLASSIC COLA NATIONAL CUP: Querter-first deser. London Towers v. Manchester Glants: Thomas Valley Tigers v. London Leopards: Elimingham Bullets v. Worthing Bears; Sheffield Sharks v. Leicaster Riders.

BOWLS

KOWLCON: Manualite Hong Kong International Classic: Pairs: Third round: Section Ar-Wales (W Matthews and J Hoskins) by Victoria Park (R Ties and W S Crang) 42-14; Scotland (D Gourley and G Robertson) bit Maleysia (Z Putein and A Seichun) 20-15; Aussnale: (A Jettrey and M Jacobsen) bit Chira Light & Power (Chung Sum Keung and A Chu) 35-5: South Airca (B Balser and N Burkett) bit Hong Kong (T Tong and J Wang) 20-18; Kowloon CC (J Melbourne and K Wallie) bit Crangengour CC (W Lai and T Chotq 23-20; Chennal Islands: Flambly and D Le Marquand) bit Indian Recreation Cub (B A K But, and J S Wasim) 21-13. Section B: New Zeatand (B Baldwin and B McNish) bit New Zeatand (B Baldwin and B McNish) bit New Zeatand (B Baldwin and B McNish) bit Reference (J Harry and S Allen) 16-15; Hong Kong 22-11; Carada (J Alleen and L Adams) bit Reference (J Carastairs, and N Kennech) 23-12; Zhrababwe (M McCarmick and W Curraning) bit Hong Kong Correction Services Department (Lo Stut Hing and Tang Chung Put) 28-16; England (A Wils and 3 Airey) bit Hong Kong C (R Beantell and A Robertson) 23-15; Hong Kong Bectric (K Kacit and Ching Kwong Cheung) bit Hong Kong FC (G Chan and D Cheung) 23-21. Fourth news Carada bit Hong Kong C 30-18; Hong Kong Electric Section B: Canada bit Hong Kong C 30-18; Hong Kong Electric Section B: Canada bit Hong Kong C 30-18; Hong Kong Electric Section B: Canada bit Hong Kong C 30-18; Hong Kong Electric Section B: Cotton Bit Channel Islands 34-14; South Africa bit CCC 23-14; Tit Ir Melaysia: 13-16; Soutiand bit Hong Kong C 30-18; Hong Kong Electric Section B: Canada bit Hong Kong C 30-18; Hong Kong Electric Section B: Cotton Bit Channel Islands 34-14; South Africa bit Channel Islands 34-14; South Africa bit Channel Islands 35-15; Hong Kong C 30-18; Hong Kong Electric Section B: Cotton B: Canada bit LCC 20-14; Bit LCC 2

FOR THE RECORD 21-13; Hong Kong CC bt Hong Kong Bactric 22-19; England bt Ireland 18-16; Hong Kong P bt Hong Kong FC 27-24. CRICKET Pakistan Golden Jubilee

Pakistan v West Indies LAHORE (Pakistan won toss): Pakistar beef West Indies by eight wickets WEST INDIES

S C Witterna b Azher
S L Campbel c Reshid b Waqoar ...
S L Campbel c Reshid b Waqoar ...
C L Hooper c Shahid b Saqlain ...
S Chanderpaul low b Seqlain ...
P V Simmons st Reshid b Saqlain ...
10 Witterns c and b Azhar ...
I Bilshop not out

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-51, 3-54, 4-56, 5-130, 6-156, 7-204

BOWLING: Waster Aktern 8-0-35-0; Waster Youris: 10-1-42-2; Saglein Mushtaq 10-0 35-3; Shehid Africi 8-0-41-0; Aemir Soheil 5 1-20-0; Azhar Mehmood 9-1-26-2. PAKISTAN

Shaked Aindi b Walsh
Saeed Arwar not out
lez Ainwel tow Beshop
Asmer Sohal not out
Edites (b 3, nb 9, w 6) Total: (2 wkts, 40.4 overs)

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-55 BOWLING, Walsh 7.4-1-43-1; Rose 7-1-41-0, Dillon 8-1-37-0; Bishop 5-0-42-1; Hooper 9-1-29-0; Chandarpaul 1-0-5-0; Simmons 3-0-19-0

Umpires: Steve Durne (New Zealand) and lan Robinson (Zimbabwe). HOCKEY

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Egypt 1 Eng-isnd 3 (in Caro). HA MEN'S CUP: Fourth-round draw: Bronley v Beeston; Carnock v Harleston Magples: Centerbury v Guidrot; Chichester v Sheffleid; Doncester v Bourne-

Crester V Spacing.

C) Ties to be played on November 16.

HA WOMEN'S CUP: Third-round draw?

Adridge v Horthern: Berthemsted and

Hernel Hempstead v Steller; Blueherts v St.

Ives: Bracknell v Bridgnorit; Bradlood v

Sunderland Bedens; Burnt Ash v Crimson

Ramblers; Chamwood v Basidor; Chelma
bod v Leyland Motors; Crosby v Didsbury

Greys: Donzesler v Bradbourne; East

Grinstead v Kritby Stephen. Eastode v

Baling: Epsom v Liverpool; Bernouth v

Citton; Harleston Magpiles v Winchmore

HR; Hightown v Harrpostead and West
minster; Lelossler v St Albens, Middleton

and Bognor v Swindon: Northampton v

Derehern; Otton v Old Loughtonans;

Poynton v Turks Hit; Sherwood v Sought
Southampton v Glouesster City, Stratford v

Canterbury; Sunbury v Bestond; Suston

Colditald v Ipswich; Tauriton Vale v

Blackburn; Trojtens v West Winney; Tyredale

v Loughtonough Students; Welton v Million

Keynes; Wirmbladon v Towosenteris;

Widing v Kaffering.

[] Ties to be played on November 16.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Carotina 5 Vancouver 3: Montreal 6 Dellas 4: N YRangers 2 Edmonton 2 (OT); Philadelphia 5 St Louis 1.

MORLD CUP: European qualifying pool one: Round & taly 102 Denmerk 3, Pool two: Round & taly 102 Denmerk 3, Pool two: Round & telefrends 35 Ukraine 13. TENNENTS VELVET CUP: Third-round draw: Peables v Ayr. Selfatk v West of Scotland: Ninnoss v Reloo, Glasgow Hamks v Cumberteald: Biggar v Hill-head/Jordanhit; Cumie v Atlen Glens; Benuck v Hentois FP, House of File v Stirling Councy; Dundee HSFP v Stawerts Methils; Scroughmur v Livingson; Wigdownshite v Wassonians; Metrose v Glennottes; Dundernier v Hames Denger V Gennottes; Dundernier v Hawdick; Alacate College FP v Klimamock Falsons: Gordonara v Prestan Lodge FP; Jed-Forest v Lochaber; Headington v Hawdick; Musselburgh v Cumnock; St. Boswolfs v Edinburgh Arademicals; Gafav Hames, Musselburgh v Duns; Fallatk v Strathendnick, Alloa v Aberdeen GSFP; Contorphine v Intitrigow, Langholm v Forestar FP. East Klibnice v Stewarty; Trindy Academicals v Persociate Grangemouth v Durninss: hutchernel@kingers.

Lamb to help out at Northampton

CRICKET

BY IVO TENNANT

IN ADDITION to signing Paul Reiffel, of Australia, as their overseas player and making moves for Devon Malcolm, the Derbyshire fast bowler, Northamptonshire have approached Alian Lamb to return to the club in a consultancy role. The aim is that he will coach the young batsmen and be available to

help the senior players if required. Lamb, a former captain of the county, retired shortly before the 1996 season. Since then, he has developed a corporate hospitality business and teamed up with lan Botham, his former England colleague, against Imran Khan in a costly High Court case and in a two-man show that they took around the

country last winter. "Since Allan retired, our approach, attitude and preparation has not been quite what it was," Steve Coverdale, the chief executive, said. "Our coaches, John Emburey, Nick Cook and Neil Foster, are all bowlers and I am very keen that Allan should rejoin us. I get the impression he has been

surprised by how much he has been missing the game.

Saeed Anwar, the Pakistan opening batsman, recaptured his best form with a brilliant century as his side romped to an eight-wicket win over West Indies in the quadrangular one-day tournament in Lahore.

West Indies, restricted to a modest 215 for seven, were powerless to prevent Pakistan racing to 219 for two in 40.4 overs and finished without a point from three matches. having lost previously to South Africa and Sri Lanka.

Saeed and Aamir Sohail added 164 from 175 balls in an unbroken third-wicket partnership. Saeed hit 13 fours in his 108 while Aamir scored 71

from 88 deliveries. Winston Davis, the former West Indies fast bowler, is likely to be left partially paralysed after falling out of a tree in St Vincent and receiving spinal injuries. Davis. 39 who also played for Northamptonshire, Glamorgan and branches when the accident

windon cast no for goalkeepel.

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Sack race that produces no winners

SIMON BARNES

ing in. Vast groups of starlings wheel in winter flocks. There is the tang of gunpowder in the air. Intallible signs of the turning of the year -- mark my words, the sacking season is upon us again.

The first manager to be sacked from a Premiership club was David Pleat, who, it seems, got the verdict on the nod from Gerry Francis. And so, like the Tom Lehrer song about the acquisition of nuclear weapons, we sing: 'Who's next? Who's next?"

The first point is that no one in the bottom half of the table is safe. The second point is that no one in the top half of the table is safe, either. If you finish consistently second and you don't sack your manager, you are telling the world that you are satisfied with second-best.

Roy Evans is one of the most decent men in football. but he is the Liverpool manager and Liverpool keep on not winning the championship. His days are numbered. Arsène Wenger made a majestic start to the season with

Arsenal, but now his side have slipped back. This weekend, they must play Manchester United. Will that be the beginning of the end? Alex Ferguson at Man-

chester United is the only Premiership manager with a safe job. Or is he? His effortless domination of the Premiership has become a bit of a bore. If he draws a blank in Europe yet again, will it be time for a change?
Wild speculation about managerial futures is an

essential aspect of football. If you don't win matches, you always sack the manager as if he were out there letting in goals, missing sitters and awarding dodgy penalties.

Managing a football team

is a fantasy among adult men, but it is a very poor one. A football manager has the very opposite of a satisfying job: he has responsibility It is the chairman that has it the right way round. When you get it right, take the credit. When it all goes

wrong, you always have a

manager to sack. There are

only two courses of action

Midweek View

open to you. You can either sack the manager, or you can not sack the manager. So, at moments of crisis, when you want to "send a message to the supporters" that, though the seas are rough and the weather vile, you are steering the ship confidently towards haven. you have only one possible course of action - and chairmen always take it. Let's face

Sacking is accepted, even required behaviour. No one considers the truth that a sacking says more about the person who made the appointment than it does about the person sacked. Who demands a sacking?

Chairmen sack because the media expects it. The media expects it because the fans demand" it. The fans demand it because it always happens.

Why? It can hardly be that a sound footballing man such as Pleat becomes an unsound footballing man in the space of a few weeks.

What does a sacking actually do? Why, it prepares the way for the next sacking, what else? A new manager comes new-brooming in, has his honeymoon and his play-ers, cheered and filled with desire to impress, play above themselves for a few weeks. And the cycle continues. The players sink back to their accustomed level of per-formance, bad results bring misery, the team plays below its potential, worse results follow and the manager is sacked and the new one

comes in. Please return to the top of the paragraph. Managers are sacked because it is the custom, nothing else. Sackings are made with no thought for long term planning, no thought for football. It is invariably a matter of powerconscious chairmen without a thought in their heads mindlessly comforming to the culture of the sack.

Il sporting management is an attempt to control the uncontrollable. For a chairman, sacking is the sole medium for control at his disposal. It is not a very effective one, but at least, for the glorious few days of their sacking, the new appointment and the honeymoon, it hands him the illusion of control. For a brief moment, it masks the truth of football, the truth every manager and every chairman knows but dare not admit - that the game is not about managers and chairmen at all. It is about players. Fact: the clubs that sack the most generally achieve the

GOLF: EUROPEAN SEASON NOTABLE FOR ONE MAN'S HEARTWARMING COMEBACK

it, they love doing it.

Year that Olazabal walked tall

By JOHN HOPKINS **GOLF CORRESPONDENT**

THE 1997 European Tour began in Queensland, Australia, in January and ended in Jerez. Spain last Sunday. After the equivalent of several circumnavigations of the globe, the season has generated a multitude of images that jostle one another in the mind's

There was the sight of Severiano Ballesteros holding up the Ryder Cup in September. In June. Colin Montgomerie had struggled with his composure after nearly winning the US Open. Early in the season, David Carter was saved from death in Dubai by the decisive action of his colleagues. One early autumn day, Bernhard Langer, in a small town in Germany, went round a good course in good condition in 60. A few weeks later, Joakim Haeggman threatened to heap indignity upon the St Andrews by taking 27 strokes for his outward half on the Old Course.

Yet the most dominant memory of all is of a Spaniard in Dubai in February, beneath a midday sun. Mad dogs and Englishman and all that, but Jose-Maria Olazábal could not wait to hit his first competitive strokes after a 17month absence because of a medical condition that threatened his career. He walked like a man being buffeted from side to side by a beachfront wind. A cap threatened to fall over his eyes, except that it was stopped from doing so by his ears. Sergio Gomez, his manager, carried a cigar the size of a telegraph pole as he followed his man. He would light it only to celebrate the completion of 18 holes. Nine months earlier, Olazábal could hardly walk; now he was playing like a man who had never been away, birdies on three of the last four holes helping him to a round of 69. Twice this past year, there was the

Spread your



Olazábal, restored to fitness, in fighting form during the Ryder Cup

rare sight of Olazábal in tears. The held. Odd and heartless indeed would first occasion was in the Canary Islands in March, when he won his third tournament after his comeback: the second at the Ryder Cup two months ago. As is often the case, the sight of a strong man weeping did not diminish the regard in which he is full health of Olly," Ken Schofield, the

be anyone unmoved by the sight of Olazábai crying in pleasure after his Ryder Cup team-mates had risen to applaud him and his comeback. "The US Tour has Tiger Woods, but we have a miracle of our own in the return to

It was the year in which Montgomerie won only two tournaments, yet played well enough overall to capture a record fifth successive Order of Merit. Langer won four tournaments, yet could only come second. It was the year in which Ballesteros, Nick Faldo and Langer all turned 40. And it was the last year in which Montgomerie will devote as much time to competing in Europe as he has in the past.

With Montgomerie less in evidence, will there be a paucity of talent or will the new generation continue to progress until his absence is hardly noticed, much as Faldo has not been missed since he quit Europe?

Montgomerie named Thomas Bjorn, Darren Clarke, Ignacio Garrido, Per-Ulrik Johansson and Lee Westwood as the young men of the future. Of these, Johansson, 30, is the oldest. Westwood, 24, is the youngest and after playing well in the four major championships, in which his average finishing position was twentieth, he is the most promising too. It is to be hoped that they can all reach a position to guarantee themselves places in the World Golf Championship events that start in 1999.

A year ago, almost to the day, John Paramor, the director of European Tour operations, spoke of having to "sew up the dagger holes in the back of my jacket. We need to smarten up our act." A lot of smartening remains to be done. The handling of the Miguel Angel Martin affair remains as indefensible in November as it was at the time. Slow play and poorly-prepared courses, whether because of incompetence, incorrect direction or commercial interests, are just two blights on the face of the Tour. A lack of manners by players towards the hand that feeds them is a curse, too.

EUROPEAN ORDER OF MERIT

1963: B Hunt .

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LEADING FINAL POSITIONS: 1, C Maragomene (Scot) 2798,347; 2, 8 Langer (Ger) 2592,398; 3, L Westwood (Eng) 2588,718; 4, D Clarier (N lee) 5537,409; 5, 1 Woosnam (Weles) 2503,562; 6, I Garrido (Sp) 2411,479; 7, R Goosen (SA) 2394,597; 8, P Harrington (Ire) 2389,592; 9, J M Clazabel (Sp) 238,568; 10, R Karlsson (Swe) 2384,590; 12, C Rocca (Ir. 2315,077; 13, E Romeno (Ang) 2290,489; 14, M James (Eng) 2271,510; 15, T Bjorn (Den) 2264,593; 16, R Russed (Scot) 2250,833; 17, P Soland (Swe) 2255,274; 18, G Turner (NZ) 2299,898; 19, J Haegoman (Swe) 2225,479; 20, R Caydon (Eng) 2225,005; 21, P McGarley (re) 2220,278; 22, P O'Maley (Aus) 2208,340; 23, S Struver (Ger) 2207,006; 24, P Baker (Eng) 2208,20; 25, P Broadhurst £198,400; 26, R McFarlane (Eng) 2187,340; 27, M A Marth (So) 2187,289; 28, J Sandelin (Swe) £184,332; 30, S Arrier (Eng) 250,986; 31; D Gaibord (Eng) £182,354; 33, D Carer (Eng) £177,802; 34, R Green (Aus) £170,118; 35, J Spence (Eng) £189,370; 37, M A Liméricz (Sp) £158,413; 38, A Cabrera (Ang) £155,629; 39, P Proc (Wales) £151,602; 40, P Mitchell (Eng) £184,329; 41, D Ecturd (Swe) £147,200; 43, M Long (Sue) £144,314; 44, A Forsbrand (Swe) £141,727, 45, M Longon (Swe) £141,727, 46, M Longon (Swe) £141,727, 48, P Lonard (Aus) £134,057; 49, G Brand Jr (Scot) £133,541; 50, W Westher (SA) £129,452 1968: B Devilin . . £13.205 £20.235 . 523,483 1970: C O'Cornor . E31.532 1971; G Player 1972; R Charles 1973; A Jackin 1974; P Costathus 532,127 1975; D Hayes 1976: S Ballesteros £46,436 £54,348 1961: 6 Langer 1982: A Lyle 1983: N Feldo £86.141 2254,711 1988; S Ballestoros 1989; R Rafferty 1990: I Woosnam 1991: S Ballesteros 2737.978 1992: N Faido 1993: C Montgomerie 1994: C Montgomerie 1995: C Montgomerie 1996: C Montgomerie 1997: C Montgomerie . 2930.647 (Includes Order of Mark events, and World Matchplay and Alfred Dunhill Cup)

Answers from page 42.

(c) A migrant agricultural worker, specifically one from Okinhoma forced to leave his farm during the depression of fise 1930s. John Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath, 1939: "Okie use to mean you was from Oklahoma. Now it means you're a dirty son-of-a-bitch."

(b) The Tamil New Year festival acwhich new rice is cooked; hence, a dish of cooked rice. An adaptation of the Tamil ponkul "bolling". "The central rite of the great Pongal festival of South India consists. in cooking new rice, some of which is offered to Ganesa, the remainder being cases by the family." SALONFAHIG

(a) Fit for (polite) society: socially respectable. The German word. Encounter, 1980: "The Austrian initiative, whatever its underlying motivations, serves to lend an air of cultured respectability to a blood-statued struggle and to render Araint salouthing in Western

(c) The basic monetary unit of Hungary from 1927 to 1946. The Hungarian word literally means "ringing". "The Pengo (of 100 Filler) was superseded in August, 1946, by a new currency, the

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE National pic, | ber 2294747. | I Bi7+! Kxf7 2 Rc7+ KB 3 Qd6+ mating.

A couple's lofty ambitions

The return of the series which really does make you want to push up your sleeves and tackle decorating and DIY where you might have run a mile (or worse, hired a clumsy decorator) before. The Williams family, expecting a new baby, have decided to convert their loft... Jucky them to have such a roomy, airy loft to start with. Once glass hricks have carved out a batteroom area, the windows have been fitted and colourful furniture moved in against the unpainted bricks, who wouldn't want to sleep there? An ongoing theme will be the gradual renovation of a 1930s semi in Bristol and a competition to find the Junior Decorator of the Year. This begins with 15-year-old Philip Cooper, a real little Conran in the making.

Modern Times: Bystanders BBC2 9.00pm

"A man jumped out of a car after a young woman. I could see the fear in her eyes and I just walked away. Today I still feel guilty I7 years on." I saw my husband on the floor and three young women jumping all over him — then they started punching jumping all over him — then they started numching me until I was unconscious. The regulars just stood and watched." These are two of the testaments of people involved in violence: a bystander who did nothing and Elaine Byglin, a pub landlady whose customers did nothing. One still bemused interviewee retalls being degraded and humiliated by a gang of thugs on a busy train. "Don't look for anyone to help you. Nobody does these days." Nicholas O'Dwyer's unsettling film examines the truth of this, and although some heroes and heroires do emerge, the results are a sadheroines do emerge, the results are a sad indiciment of the way we live today.

Witness: The Clinic Channel 4, 9.00pm

As part of the ongoing Who's Choice? strand marking the 30th anniversary of the Abortion Act, this gentle film, studded with statistics, should tell you everything you need to know about having a termination. Ethically it does not take sides although the anti-abortion lobby is given a kind of platform when protesters (all male) are seen harassing pregnant women going into the clinics

Victim Elaine Byglin (BBC2, 9.00pm)

and praying on their kness "for the soul of the unborn child." None of the women interviewed has taken termination lightly — all have had good reason, particularly one devastated victim of rape. The programme films in three private clinics around the country (average cost £350) and notes that although "one in three women will undergo a termination at some point in her life a feeling of termination at some point in her life, a feeling of guilt often lingers in spite of counselling before and after this demonstrably minor operation.

BBC2, 11.15pm

Reinventing The Wheel

Radio 4, 9.00pm

Somehow the programme makers have persuaded the Home Office and the Scottish Prison Service not to mention various custodial set ups in America to grant them unprecedented access and have also found prisoners and former-prisoners to act as interviewers, guides and presenters. Each week a different prison (Doncaster tonight) fields a different immate to introduce it. Governors, guards and probation officers are interviewed — problems such as bullying drug taking and male prostination get an airing. The former governor of HMP Cookham Wood, Collette Kershaw, tackles Sheriff Joe Arpaio about his soul-destroying methods in an Arizona lock-up, poet and ex-con Benjamin Zephaniah sings about normally ummentionable goings-on inside, and there is a bracing report on life aboard HMP Wears, the prison ship.

Elizabeth Cowley

This excellent series on the history of technology is m serious danger of making science popular, though come to think of it, popularity and the size

of the Radio 4 andience at this time of the night probably do not fit in the same sentence. Tonight the programme demonstrates that however much some of us may be morn marketing and the exploit-

The Directors Radio 2, 10.00pm

Confession time: I think Woody Allen makes terrific films but I wish he would not appear in them. That voice has reached a stage of ment where it comes across as a parody of itself. And if Allen is to be taken at his word in this interview for what is proving to be a most interview for what is proving to be a most interesting series, just about anyone could play the leads because allegations that his obsession with New York Jewish angst is related to the fact that he lives in New York. Is Jewish and angst-ridden are quite unfounded. Hard to credit, isn't it? Still. Allen is very convincing tonight on the craft of directing and he gives some insights into how he handles a cast and the extent to which the cast drives the

Jo Whitey, Includes Novabeat 2,30 pen Mark Radolffe 4,00 Dave Pearce 6,15 Newsbest 6,39 Evening Session 8,38 Trade Update 9,40 John Peel, Includes a session by Hitcher 10,30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1,00 pm. Citre Warren 4,00 - Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00em Sarah Kennady 7.30 Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 . David Aaronovitch 1.30em Debbis Turower 3.00 Ed Stewert 5.05 Johnnie Walter 7.00 Nick Barrackough 8.00 Folk on 2 9.00 Mr Blue: The Torn Paistro Story 1/2 9.30 The Gurs of Nevarone (5/5) 12.00 The Directors. See Choice 16.00 Fichard Alinson 18.00 min Steve Madden 3.00 Alek Leafer 19.

6.00em The Breeklast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide with Julian Wortcker 7.00 News Estra 7.30 John Invertella's Football Night. Newcastle United tales on PSV Endflower at St. James Perk and Menchester United meet Feyerboard in Rotterdam in the Champions Langue, including National Lottery five 10.00 Litelejohn 11.00 News Edna 12.00 After Hours 2.00cm Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

5.00mm Jeremy Ctark 7.00 Chris Evans 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Home 4.00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Calvin Jones 19.00 Mark Forrest 2.00mm Richard Porter

TA: K RADIO

6.30mm Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.66 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Reebum 9.00 James Whate 1.00mm Ian Collins

some of us may be moan marketing and the exploit-ation of inventions, they have been around for a long time. James Watt (of the steam engine) and his partner Matthew Boulton became rich because they took up Boulton's idea that the engine should be patented for 25 years, thus bringing them large sums in royalties. Alexander Graham Bell was similarly conscious of the gains to be made from the telephone, which he patented. Peter Barnard WORLD SERVICE

6.00ems Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shaff. The Colour of Blood 7.30 Merciden Livis.8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Concert Hall 8.00 News, News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 The Farming World 9.30 Science File 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 19.30 One Planet 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Sports International 12.00 News 12.05pen World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Seeing Stars 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Megamix 3.00 News; News in German (648 only) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Performance 3.30 Edesywoosan 4.00 News, News in German (648 only) 4.46 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30. The Worlds; News in German (648 only) 7.00 News, 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 Midhrack X-Press 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.20 On Screen 10.00 Newsclesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook 11.36 Multitrack X-Press 12.00 Newsdesk 2.30am From Our Own Correspondert, 12.45 British Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Omnibus 2.00 Newaday 2.30 Meridian Books 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Journey to the Centre of the Atom 3.45 History Today 4.90 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today

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6.00em Alen Mann. Includes Breaklast Beroque and the Morning Merch 9.00 Henry Kally. Includes Michael Barry prepares chill con came and Record of the Week leaturing the prepares chill con came and Record of the Week leaturing the best of the new releases 1.00pm Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones 2.00 Concerto. Brahms (Double Violin Concerto in A minor) 3.00 Janule Crick. Includes Two in a Row, and Three Steps to Seven 7.00 Newsnight with John Bruming 7.30 Sonata. Handel (Recorder Sonata in C) 8.00 Evening Concert. Handel (Nusle for the Royal Fireworks); Ravel (Plano Concerto for the Left Hand); Stravinsky (The Problem); Tcheitovsky (1812 Overture) 10.00 Michael Meppin. Includes 11.35 Noctume 2.00ets Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Califities

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor, Includes Handel (Occasional Suite in D); Detius (Violin Sonata No 1); Gabrieli (Hic est Fitus Dei); Seint-Seins (Cello Concerto No 1 in A minor); Wagner (Tristan und Isolde, Prelude to Act 1); Strauss

Seens (very und lacide, Prelucie to re(Tristen und lacide, Prelucie to re(Tristen und lacide, Prelucie to re(Coccord)

9.00 Morning Cellection, with Peter Hobday. Viveldi (Concero in A); Chopin (Four Mezuriass); Granados (Pieno Trio); Revel (Botto); Granados (Pieno Trio); Revel (Mark Rowlinson.

Granados (Plano Trio); Raval (Bolero)

10,00 Musical Encounters, with Mark Rowlinson.

Novak (The Lovers, Stovek Suite); Schubert (Das-Lied im Graver, Dae Zügenglöcktein); Shepperd (In Manus Tuss 1); Telemann (Concerts in D for three trumpest); Gerard Schumpern (Concerts in D for Orchestra); Tellis (Dum Transisset a 5); Mozart (String Quintet in C)

12.00 Composer of the Weelc Yaughen Williams

1.00pra The Reafic 3 Lanchtime Concert, Live from the Wigmons Halt, London, Nelson Goerner, plano, Mozart (Farthey in D minor); Boshma (Seven Fantasies); Liszt (Harmonies du Soir; Chasse-Neige; Mazeppa, Transcendental Studies)

2.00 Midweek Cholce, with Susan Sharpe, Telephone 0171-765 4365 with your requests for bondire night 4.00 Choral Eventeoog, Live from Ripon Cathedra 5.00 fiz Tune. Seen Ratterly talks to Jonathen Dove, the composer of the year's ET commission, as he prepares for the premiere of his new work this

wear,
Performence on 3. A concert from line Orchestra
of the Age of Enlightenment's series of music from
Mozert's Viernia, given last year as part of its BBC

residency at St George's, Brandon Hill. Bristol.
Chi-Chi Nwanoku, double bass, Orchestra of the
Age of Enlightanment under Frans Bruggen.
Haydn (Symphony No 59 in A. Fire); Ditersdorf
(Double Bass Concerto in E flat); Mozert
(Symphony No 41 in C. Jupiter)

9.00 Postscript: Ulysses (Sounding the Century). A
celetration of the 75th anniversary of the
publication of James Joyce's Ulysses, The
composer Luciano Berio reflects on Joyce's ear,
and the artist Tom Phillips discusses Joyce's eye
(3/5)

(3/5)
3.20 Oxbridge Organa, Gillian Weir returns to the chapel of Clare College, Cambridge, where she used to pies shortly after the two-manuel classical organ was built by the German firm of Von Beckerath in the 1970s. Bustehude (Toccsta in F). Frescobaldi (Aria Detto Balletto); Rossi (Toccsta No 7 in D minor): Honeroner (Fucuse): Arian Heiller Frascobaldi (Aria Detto Balletto); Rossi (Toccata No 7 in D minot); Honegger (Fugue); Anton Heiller (Suite in Festo Corports Christi)

10.08 Ensemble, Penny Gore Introduces a recital by Grahem Scott, plano. Mozart (Piano Sonata in A); Franck (Phalule, Chonate and Fugue)

10.45 Night Waves. Hermione Lee discusses Robert Wilson's return to London's West End with a theatrical version of Marguerita Duras's La Malactie de la Mort

11.30 Composer of the West: Dussek (r)

12.30am Jazz Notas. Highlights from a concert given by the Alan Elsdon All-Star Jazz Band. Introduced by Digby Pairweather

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

5.55am (f.W) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weether 9.00 News 9.05 Minimum, with the Times columnist

Today 8.40 Yesterday in Perfament 8.55 Westher
9.00 News 9.05 Mildweek, with the Times courreist
Libby Purves and her guest, the American travel
writer Bill Bryson
10.00 News; The New Pack of Germany. Caroline
Wyatt explores the stereotype of the German
people as being serious and humouriess (4/4)
19.00 (LW) Delly Service
19.15 (EW) Woman's Hour, introduced by Jerni Murray
11.30 Gerdeners' Guestion Time. Nigel Coloom, Bobi
Flowerdesv and Geoffrey Smith answer cutestons
sent in by post. With chalman Eric Robson (r)
12.00 News; You and Years, with Lesley Riddoch
12.25 pm Dinner Ladles. A comedy drama series
written by Turan Al. With Barbere Dickson, Liz
Smith and Jeen Heywood (3/6) 12.55 Westher
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clerke
1.00 The Archece (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Stind Berber, by John Dickson Carr,
dramatised by Peter Ling, With Donald Sinden,
John Hartley, Patrick Allen and Chee Swift
2.45 News; Treasure Islands, with Michael Rosen.
Sue Bils discusses reading projects where
parents have a key role in helping their children
3.00 The Aftennoon Shift, with Deire Breham:
4.50 News 4.55 Kaledoecope, Paul Gernbaccini sees
Frace/Off, the latest first from the Hong Kong
director John Woo, saming John Travolta and
Nicoles Cage, and Investigates this year's London

Film Festivel as new programmers take over the Film Festival as new programmers take over the planning
4.45 Short Story: Man of His Times, by Frank White, seed by Stephen Thome (r)
5.00 PM 5.60 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Shi O'Clock News
6.30 Windowsin. Llone Kalloway chairs the second regional heat of the wildfile quit in Liverpool (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Face the Facts. John Waitd investigates
7.45 Conversations with Strangers. A safes in which people talk openly about themselves to Robert
Roberson
8.30 People Banga (en Mathilies Leaters

people talk openly about themselves to Robert Roberson

8.30 Poetry Bengt lan McMillan hosts an evening of verbal freworks for Bondire Night from the Roadhouse in Manchester

9.00 Reinventing the Wheel, See Choice (3/4)

10.08 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustin

10.08 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustin

10.48 Book at Beditines Laughter is the Dark, by Viacimir Nabokov, read by David Horovich (8/10)

11.00 The Shuttleworthe, with Graham Fellows (6/8)

11.15 Grievous Bodilly Radio. The correctly series from Jon Holmes and Andy Hurst, With Peter Sessinowicz, Emme Clarke and Miles Chequer (5/6)

11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament.

11.30 (LM) Today in Parliament 11.30 (FM) My Life as a Car. Phil Daniels stars in Mark

Mailington's cornedy series (5/6) (r)

12:80 News 12:30en The Late Book: Planny Boy.

Gary Pilai reads Shyam Selvadura's story (3/10).

12:48 (149) Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4: RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 693, 909; WORLD SERVICE, MW 698, LW 198 (12.45-5.55am).
CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRION RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1218. TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089.
Talestsion and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and Jehn McNamera.

ofty ambition

NEW YORK THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

Lady and gentlemen, you've been framed

Soing to remember about "lambs" and "slaughter". The only real question was whether it would be the male sex or Gillian DuCharme, headmistress of Benenden. Last night, both waited patiently for the nice smooth-talking documentary makers to cut off their heads.

The men, bless em, were all puppy-dog eagerness. Told that this was their chance to say what they really meant about women drivers, they rather sweetly be-lieved it. Cutting Edge: Women Drivers (Channel 4) was clearly going to be a treat.

"What I don't understand," said one, his elbow assuming the approved driver-door position for advanced philosophising, "is why women's insurance is so cheap when they cause all the accidents. A lot of other chaps nodded their agreement. The trouble with women, began another from that

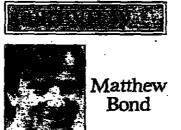
haven of reason, the white van, is that they're the gentler sex. "And that's no good out here. I suppose that's why they don't fight wars it's like a war out here." That was certainly the way he drove. Whether women fight wars or

not (hasn't it changed recently?) was really neither here nor there. What they do make is very good documentaries, as Ella Bahaire showed. Hers was a film very much in the lightweight spirit of this new Cutting Edge series, which appears to have carried on where BBCl's Driving School left off. Nothing sensational, nothing that requires months of investigation, just a documentary series driven by a single thought how

many people can we get to watch? Bahaire's first priority was to entertain. If that meant some of her action was modestly staged (at one point I thought she had Paul Whitehouse playing a London cabbie) then so be it, that is the fashion among makers of popular documentaries. But she also managed to be interesting, if not necessarily convincing, about why upper-middle-class mothers feel safer doing the school run in fourwheel-drive Jeeps, and why anonymity is a key component of male road rage. Well, think of the shame if anybody we knew saw us.

ost of all, however, it was a chance to have a go at men. She had the statistics, showing that men were responsible for at least 90 per cent of everything (men, of course, already knew that). She had Lee and his white vanload of testosterone. And she had a pet psychotherapist to reveal that male behaviour behind the wheel came down to "fear of castration". Her closing shot of Justin, a blow-up male passenger doll, deflating was deli-

ciously apposite. The male sex did not have to



wait long for revenge, although even the toughest among them may not have had the stomach for Back to the Floor (BBC2). This was going to be victous, as its innocent victim already had an inkling. "I feel just like a sacrificial lamb going to the slaughter," said Gillian DuCharme as she began a week of working as a cover teacher at an East London comprehensive. And this was just morning assemly the leafy and very expensive tranquillity of Benenden seemed a

long way away.
At times, Adam Wishart's film was almost too painful to watch. DuCharme ("I haven't met many DuCharmes," observed the comprehensive's headmaster) emerged as game and magnificently honest when her week on the wild side ended, to all intents and purposes, in failure. "If anyone got it wrong it was me, not them. But they (Class 91) didn't help."

But DuCharme also emerged as naive, and not just in entrusting her reputation to a fly-on-theblackboard film crew. "I didn't know whether you'd be black or white," she laughed as she met the Forest Gate headmaster. "Or Indian," she added as a broad-minded afterthought. Later she would interrupt taking the register to ask a pupil if he was from Nigeria. The

bly; her English and French boy looked puzzled. He thought he lessons were still to come. Sudden- was from Forest Gate. The film was certainly no adver-

tisement for comprehensive teaching, despite the passionate but rarely heard beliefs (it may have been wicked editing, but DuCharme appeared immensely fond of the sound of her own voice) of the Forest Gate staff. Teaching an unstreamed class of 30, including pupils with special needs, appeared to be an exercise designed to stretch just one individual - the teacher.

ut nor was it much of a B commercial for private edu-cation. Anybody who believes that a school where the fees are £14,000 a year is a "microcosm of society" really ought to have the good sense not to say so in the middle of a East London school struggling to get by on an annual budget of £1,400 per pupil. By one of those strange tele-

ter in Underworld, played by Owen Brenman in Channel 4's new comedy drama, bore a truly remarkable resemblance to the Forest Gate headmaster. James Fleet, however, playing William Smith, the customary commonroom antihero, bore no resemblance to DuCharme. He settled a noisy classroom with a stage whisper, gently rebuked an Asian pupil for wearing trainers ("don't tell me, it's a central tenet of Islam") and drove home in his 2CV to discover that his young wife had left him and stolen his belongings.

vision coincidences, the headmas-

Andy Hamilton's script was at times very funny, at others just a little on the slow side. But most of all, at least on the evidence of this opening episode, his mix of the suburban with the surreally sinister bears a really uncanny resemblance to Alan Plater's The Beiderbecke Affair. Still, if Plater doesn't mind . . .

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (69582) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (64940) 9.00 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (5908650) 9.25 Style Challenge Four librarians from Bristol (5927785) 9.50 Kilroy (i) (5225817)

10.30 Change That in Sheffield (4533619) 10.55 The Really Useful Show Featuring life-iong complainer Devid Weish (7212389) > 11.35 Real Rooms A bathroom in Bath

12.00 News (I) and weather (6695921) 12.05pm Call My Bluff (9416619) 12.35 Going for a Song (2621018) 1.00 News (r) and weather (74327) 1.30 Regional News (T) (84735230) 1.40 The Weather Show (59293495) _ 1:45 Neighbours (T) (97148360) 2.10 Quincy (r) (2307389)

3.00 World on a Plate Food preservation

3.30 Playdays (r) (8568853) 3.50 ChuckleVision (r) (8553389) 4.10 Get Your Own Back (1) (8821151) 4.35 Out of Tune (1) (1182853) 5.00 Newsround (1) (5823476) 5.10 Blue Peter (1) (9774476) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (716056)

6.00 News (1) and weather (563) 6.30 Regional News (T) (143) 7.00 Face Value Finasteride, a "wonder cure"

MONED HAVE

CLASSIC RE

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A CONTRACTOR

to the different party

for baldness; paying up to £300 a day to be taken shopping; detox diets (T) (6747) 7,30 Tomorrow's World Jez Nelson reports from Singapore on a nursery which introduces toddlers to the latest computer technology. Plus, the perfect sniffer dog in Australia (T) (327)

8.00 Crime Beat Martyn Lewis delves into the burglar alarm business (T) (5495)

8.30 The National Lottery Live with American pop group N-Sync (1) (108414)

9.29 National Lottery Update (626921) 9,30 Absolutely Fabulous Patsy's sister pays

a visit (r) (1) (14360) \$10,00 The X Files: Terms (2/2) Mulder escapes the Russian gulag but Scully refuses to reveal his whereabouts to the

higher authorities (1) (928259). 10.45 Full Circle with Michael Palin (r) (1) (888292) WALES: 10.45 A Touch of Classics (480698) 11.15 Full Circle with Michael Palin (866230) 12.05cm Weish Questions (1429896) 12.35 The Richard Dimbleby Lecture (7341235) 1.20 FILM:

A Time of Destiny (907761) 3.10 News and weather (66316964) 11,35 The Richard Disnbleby Lecture Jonathan Dimbleby introduces Lord Noten, who reflects on the success of his committee in rooting out sleaze in Parliament (905853)

12.20am A Time of Destiny (1988) with William Hurt, Timothy Hutton and Melissa. Leo. Second World War drama about two Gis whose close friendship is jeoperdised by tragedy and revenge. Directed by Gregory Nava (961273) 2.10 Weather (9960885)

VideoPkis+ and the Video PkisCodes VideoPhis+ and the Viseo Phiscodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
listing are Video PhisCode "numbers, which
allow you to programme your video recorder
instantly with a VideoPhis+" handset. Tap in
the Video PhisCode for the programme you
wish to record. Videophis+ ("), Phiscode (")
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6.00am Technology: Given Enough Rope (80563) 6.30 Anware: Computers in the Arts (35940)

7.00 See Heer Breekfast News (T and

signing) (9282817)
7.15 Teletubbles (r) (4379360) 7.40 Smurts:
Adventures (r) (2653501) 8.05 The Resily
Wild Show (2240698) 8.30 Penny Crayon
(493253) 8.40 Tales of Aesop (9033834) 8.45 The Record (9936679) 9.10 What? Where? When? Why? (1698817) 9.25 English Express (2513834) 9.45 Words and Pictures (4823308) 18.00 Teletutobles (26232) 10.30 Numbertime (8662227) 10.45 Cata' Eyes (7117132) 11.00 Around Scotland (1952056) 11.20 Geography Programme (3726018) 11.40 Revista (3664835) 11.55 Quinze Minutes Plus (1121495) 12.18pm Science in

12:30 Working Lunch (32766) 1.00 Neddy (r) (72265178) 1.10 The Art and Artiques Hour (6766292) 2.10 Going, Going, Gone (96419259) 2.35 Really Useful Show (3788679) 2.40 News (3778292) 2.45 Westminster (4062650) 3.55 News (8593292) 4.00 Ready, Steedy, Cook (376) 4.30 Through the Keyhole (r) (1181124) 4.55 Esther. Shopeholics (9338679) 5.30 Today's the

Action (8181211) ····

6.80 Star Treic The Next Generation (f) (1) (560501

6.45 Silders (1) (769105) 7.30 Black Britain Special Investigation into the murder of a Cardiff woman in 1952 which led to the hanging of Somalian seaman Mahmoud Mattan, asking whether an innocent man went to the

8.00 Gery Rhades New series; Alderney mussels glazed with cider and leeks; roast chicken and bacon, chocols banana bread pudding (T) (3037)



Anne McKeviti in the loft (8.30pm)

Home Front Tessa Shaw introduces a new series of the interior design show (1) (5872) Modern Times: Bystanders An exploration of an ethical

dilemma (T) (643360) 9.50 The Rugby Club Last in series (1) (117056) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (427768)

Prison Weekly New series offering an insight into life behind bers (1) (478853)

11.45 10x10 A woman is pregnant after an angelic encounter (671414) 11,55 Weather (835785)

12.00 The Midnight Hour (T) (12438) 12.30em Learning Zone: Sally Gunnett (9102902) 12.45 Architecture (3991631) 1.35 Church of Santa Maria del Miracoll, Venice (8897896) 2.00 English Time (56693) 4.00 Italianissimo (32273) 5.00

Nursing (20032) 5.30 Nursing (13167).

6.00em GMTV (4470940) 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (5903105) 9.55 Regional News (6420834) 10.00 The Time, the Place (20018) 10.30 This Morning (1) (48706679) **12.20pm Regional News** (6609124)

12.30 News (T) and weather (2640143) 12.55 Shortland Street (2625834) 1.25 Home and Away (1) (73290637) 1.50 Quisine (1) (97154921) 2.20 Vanessa(1) (96486921) 2.50 The Fashlon Police. An

expectant mother is guided through the maze of maternity wear (1) (8066495) 3.20 News (T) (8378853)

3.25 Regional News (8377124) 3.30 Tots TV (3292872) 3.40 The Parkies (1581124) 3.50 The New Adventures of Winnle the Pooh (r) (8755501) **4.20** Neil's Art Attack Scrapbook (T) (6969673) 4.45 Sabrina the Teenage Witch (T) (1173105)

5.10 WALES: Yan Can Cook - The Best of China (9236327) 5.10 No Naked Flames — The Work Experience (9236327)

5.40 News (1) and weather (975872) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (733259) **6.25 Regional Weather (695650)** 6.30 Regional News (I) (211)



McKay and Spiro (7.00pm)

7.08 Emmerdate Sarah (Alyson Spiro) tells Rachel (Glenda McKay) what she thinks of her (4143)

7.30 Uefa Champions' League — Livel Bob Wilson presents coverage of the match between Feyenoord and Manchester United (T) (48695150)

NB: Subsequent programmes are subject to delay or alteration

9.45 Coronation Street The pressure is building for Jim. Alan and Fiona prepare for their wedding (T) (484414) 10.15 News at Ten (T) National Lottery result

and weather (476495) 10.45 Regional News and weather (725414) 10.55 WALES: Whodurent? The Strange Case of Dr William Parry (978143)

10.55 Uefa Champions League Highlights Newcastle and PSV Eindhoven (518921) 11.25 WALES: Champions' League Highlights (572389)

12 25em Collins and Maconle's Movie Club (5863761) 1.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol

1.20 Don't Forget Your Bucket and Spade

from Taunton to Minehead (6258341) 2.20 Jones and Jury (r) (7466148) 2.40 Ueta Champions' League (477051) 4.20 Sound Bites (40973612) 4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (93004780) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (57186)

CENTRAL As HTV West except:

12.54pm Air Watch (19479037) 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (2625834) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9236327) 5.59-6.00 Air Watch (457327) 6,25-7.00 Central News (115786)

11.55 Film: There's a Girl in My Soup (574563) 1.45am in Focus (7695877) 2.30 TTV Sport Classics (6870693) 2.35 Champions' League (205761)

5.20 Asian Eye (9678148)

4.20 Central Jobfinder '97 (5540506)

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6691105) 12.55 Home and Away (7629495) 1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (79729495) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9236327) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (37211) 11.55 Beadle's About Late at Night (862679)

As HTV West except 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9236327) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (259) 6.30-7.00 Put ft to the Test (211) 11,55 Beyond Reason (862679) 5.00em Freescreen (57186)

As HTV West except:

12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6603940) 12,55-1.25 A Country Practice (2625834) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9236327) 6.23 Anglia Weather (603679) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (115786) 10.44 Anglia Air Watch (702563)

Starts: 7.00em The Big Breakfast (57650)

9,00 Yagolion (484327) 11.30 Powerhouse (4747) 12.00 Sesame Street (16230) 12.30cm Ricki Lake (27834) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (66961786) 1.15 Tic Toc (75416691) 1.30 Jump (44741650)

1.50 Film: A Ticket to Tomehawk 3.30 Collector's Lot (389)

4,00 Fifteen-to-One (124) 4,30 Dan Pearson: Routes Around the 5.00 5 Pump (8277969)

5 15 Field (5828921) 5.30 Countdown (360) 6.00 Newyddion (166563) 6.10 Heno (542105) 7.00 Pobol v Cwm (814018) 7.25 Flamio (189105) 8.00 Gwaith Cartrel (8105) 8.30 Newyddion (5740) 9.00 Prime Suspect (3124) 10.00 Brookside (353921) 10,35 Babylon 5 (530143)

12.00 Under the Moon (4010506)

4,30em Chinese Football (79896)

5.00-5.30 Screaming Reels (55728)

11.30 Cybill (40872).

7.00 The Big Breekfast (57650)

5.55am Sesame Street (52292)

9.00 Schools: Making Sense of Science (4786) 9.30 Good Health (1) (4813921) 9.45 Book Box (1) (4818476) 10.00 Stage Two Science (1) (9195261) 10.15 Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3367312) 10.30 Geographical Eye (1) (2730921) 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (1) (8982785) 11.00 First Edition (3740698) 11.15 The Mix (1) (3723921)

CHANNEL 4

11.30 Powerhouse Political magazine (4747) 12.00 Sesame Street (16230) 12.30pm Light Lunch (20650) 1.30 Gardens Without Borders (r) (84719292) 1.45 Earthscape: A wildlife short (59285476)

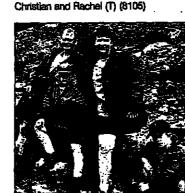
1.50 Pink String and Sealing Wax (1945, b/w) Googie Withers and Gordon Jackson in a thriller set in 1890s Brighton. A publican's wife persuades a besotted young man to help to murder her husband. Directed by Robert Harner

3.30 Collector's Lot (T) (389) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (I) (124) 4.30 Countdown (I) (1176292) 4.55 Ricki Lake (I) (9923747) 5.30 Pet Rescue (1) (360)

6.00 The Cosby Show Diane turns to Clair for advice (r) (1) (501) 6.30 Rossanne Becky takes Darlene to

party (r) (1) (853) 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (588327) 7.50 Whose Choice?: Mixed Feelings A

man in his tate forties regrets that a relationship 20 years ago ended in an 8.00 Brookside Will Jacqui accept Barry's offer? Sinbad discovers the truth about



The Dipple family (8.30pm)

8.30 The Real Holiday Show Three more camcorder revelations, presented by Gaby Roslin, including a Scotsman's a couple attempting a reconciliation in the French Alps; and 50-year-old twins celebrating their birthday by cruis around the Canary Islands (T) (5740)

Whose Choice?: Witness— The Clinic A documentary that goes behind the scenes at three abortion clinics (T) (3124)

10.00 A is for Accident The reality behind crazy driving. First shown in the Cutting Edge series (1) (r) (6211)

11.00 Whose Choice?: A Mixed Blessing Four women take an amniocentesis tes An update of a documentary first shown in The Decision series last year (1)

12.00 Under the Moon Sports magazine (4010506)

4.30am Chinese Football (r) (79896) 5.00 Screaming Reels (r) (T) (55728) 5.30 Scottish Writers A.L. Kennedy (r) (1)

THE CHANNELS OF

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge, Frequencies for transponder No 83 are picture: 10.92075 GHz, sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (2945921) 7.30 Milkshake (4608563) 7.35 USA High

(6009414) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (2792619) 8.30 WideWorld The work of two American minimalist artists, Richard Sena and Robert Smithson (14/15) (7647560)

9.00 Espresso Consumer magazine (2997766) 10.00 Exclusive (8094018) 10.30 Treasure Islands (r) (T) (3247704) 11.00 Leeza Chat show (7642872) 11.50 Double Espresso (94826872) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (9542196)

12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (T) (8839105) 1.00 5 News Update (61145871) 1.05 Sunset Beach (1) (3628679) **2.00** 5's Company (8696747)

3.30 O.S.S. (1946, b/w) starring Alan Ladd. A Second World War drama about an elite team parachuted into occupied France just before D-Day. Directed by Irving Pichel (2956037)

5.30 Whittle Audience participation quiz show 6.00 100 Per Cent Game show without a host

(3073940)6,30 Family Affairs Pete discovers that Maria has changed the locks (T) (3064292)



Seal survivor (7.30pm)

7.30 Song of the Seal: What Killed the s? The story of the sherp reduction in the seal population around Britain a decade ago (1) (3060476)

8.00 Instant Gardens William Van Hage and his team begin the first stage of the transformation of Pam and Ken Brownbill's garden (5671414) 8.30 5 News (1) (5650921)

9.00 A Fight for Jenny (1986) starring Lesley Anne Warren and Philip Michael Thomas. A drama about a couple whose inter-

provokes prejudice. Directed by Robert Greenwald (1) (79788414) 10.50 Not the Jack Docherty Show With

Graham Norton (4202853) 11.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H Doreen returns

12.35am Live and Dengerous Includes American college lootbell and basketball (32753419)

4.35 The Streets of San Francisco: Dead Air Gang wartere breaks out (r) (1) (7715341) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2978631)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

CHALLENGE TV

LIVING

ZEE TV

4.00pca Vistnam, the Ten Thousand Day War (7839785) 5.00 The Lost Ark (2839766) 6.00 Ancient Mystenes: Astrology (1984355) 7.700 Biography: Alexandra Killontal (2729143) 8.00 Close

Win with Prize Time twice an nour
5.00pm Cross Wits (8785) 5.30 Say the
Word (3866) 6.00 Family Fortunes (3582)
6.30 Catchphrises (4834) 7.15 The \$64,000
Cuestion (902380) 8.00 Spit Second
(986018) 8.30 Move on Up (3476) 3.15
Winner Takes All (296211) 19.00 Treasure
Hurt (98817) 11.15 Whritle (293747) 12.00
Say the Word (98070) 12.30sm Hart to Hart
(21047) 1.30 The Big Valley (20302) 2.30
Big Brother Jake (35730) 3.00 My Two Dids
(\$5693) 3.32 Where I Live (24070) 4.00
Snowy River: The McGregor Sage (47167)
5.00 Shopping (86831)
LIVING

8.00em Tiny LMng 9.001 Dream of Jeannie 9.30 Gordon Ellott 10.10 Jerry Springer 11.00 Young and the Restless 11.50 Brook-side 12.20pts Why Me? 1.00 Tempesti

1,50 Ready, Steady, Cook 2,30 Cheap Chic 3,00 Live at Three 4,05 Jerry Springer 5,00 Rolonda 5,50 Lucky Ladders 5,20 Ready,

3,00 Live at (tree 4,05 Jerry symper 5,00 Rholonda 5,50 Lucky Lodders 62,0 Ready, Steady, Cook 7,00 Hearts Afre 7,30 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles 8,00 April Marths, Radit and Edile 11,00 Spicy Sex Files 12,00 Close

6.30ms Nager Pene Roop Neger 7.00 Jeagren 7.30 Ghoomte Aana 8.00 Choket 4.00pts Public Demand 5.00 ZEE Zone

5.30 Teen Do Pench 6.00 Hum Pasnoh

8.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Liberty 7.30 Re

SATELLITE AND CABLE

5.30 News (96803)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision. published on Saturday

SKY 1 SKY 1

6.00am Morring Garry (8:88550) 9.00 Regis and Kafrie Lee (30853) 10.00 Another World (98621) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (18785) 12.00 Oprah Winfrey (84143) 1.00pm Geraldo (6:0563) 2.00 Sally Jessy Paptrael (74633) 3.00 Jenny Jones (77389) 4.00 Oprah Winfrey (89124) 5.00 Sally Jessy Voyager (3922) 8.00 Draem Teem (9582) 8.00 Sammer (9882) 6.30 Manned with Children (1114) 7.00 The Sampstons (4821) 7.30 Real TV (8018) 8.00 Sammer (14940) 10.00 bits Litroparted (22327) 11.00 Sar Treix Voyager (9950) 12.00 Late Strow with David Laterman (84254) 1.00 and in the Heat of the Night 51099) 2.00 Long Play (5735633) SKY MIFWS

SKY NEWS Worldwide news coverage, with buildins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1 5.00pm Sheer Bears (1978) (82774582) 8.00sm Siver Bears (1979) (82774582) 7.50 Oxt of Time (1988) (84124650) 9.30 Marriage on the Rocks (1985) (75476) 11.30 Dumelon Checks in (1995) (55124) 1.00pm Silver Bears (1978) (89785) 3.00 Marriage on the Rocks (1988) (8508) (8508) 5.00 First Knight (1988) (1537583) 7.15 Duty-ton Checks in (1988) (8500143) 9.00 Theshe Marriagh (1988) (8500143) 9.00 Theshe Marriagh (1988) (20105327) 11.18 Once You Meet 2 Stranger (1986) (44056) 12.50am SFW (1985) (253085) 2.30 Houtile Force (1996) (753463) 4.10

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2 8.30cm Title Joy of Living (1938) (13503) 8.00 Born to be Wild (1985) (74985755) 9.40 Bedium (1945) (5190308) 11.00 Shanghai Express (1932) (1974834) 12.25pm Mayday at 40,000 Feet (1975) 927785 2.00 I Walland with a Zombie 907785) 2,00 i Wallard with a Zomble (1943) (480828) 3,10 The Shart Ship (1943) 29550) 4,20 Born to be Wild (1986) (4725563) 6,00 Sami-Precious (1989) (47872) 8,00 Just and Sami-(1989) 2920) 10,00 White Angel (1980) (26128) 11,40 Denter Unicasies (1986) 6,9478) 1,15am Mail (1981) (36263) 5,9478) 1,15am Mail (1981) (36560) 4,45 1,10 Not Life Us (1995) (36560) 4,45 The Constant Brothers (2280544)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Size Circase (1955) [1409853] 6.00 The Rathway Cisidres (1970) [296222] 8.00 Good Guys Wear Black (1979) [2995037] 10.00 Fasial Security (1987) [7147582] 11.45 All of No [1944] [2957478] 1.20mm Sussus Shapt Here (1954) [2428693] 3.00 The Sicilian Clam (1969) [2428693] 3.00 The Sicilian Clam TNT

2.00pm The Treasure of the Sterra Steden (1948) (4022327) 11,15 Young Cassidy: (1965) (14932037) 1.15cm Es-caps from East Bartis (1962) (54317544) 2.45 The Yellow Rolls Royce (1964) (84508321) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1

7,00em Sports Centre (38476) 7.30 Wresting (37495) 8.26 Sports Centre (48476) 8.00 Reading News (82055) 9.30 Aemobics (75018) 19.00 The Footbellers' Footbell Show (48485) 11.00 Pool (63255) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (42292) 12.30pm Cricket Mark New Zeeland XV England XV (51882) 2.30 Tester Bear (3327) 3.00 The Footbellers' Footbell Show (15563) 4.00 Westersports World (84896) 5.00 Wresting (1476) 6.00 Sports Centre (84896) 5.00 Wresting (1476) 6.00 Sports Centre (4821) 10.30 Futbol Mundal (5306) 7.00 Cricket Mark New Zeeland XI v England XI (613037) 10.00 Sports Centre (4821) 10.30 Futbol Mundal (63009) 11.00 Pool (44744) 12.00 Sports Centre (90254) 12.30 sm Cricket Mark New Zeeland XI v England XI (2769709) 2.30 Sports Centre (88254) 4.00 Close Sports Centre (88254) 4.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7,00mm Aarobics (8210209) 7.30 Sporte Certins (7765394) 8.00 Recing Name (8374563) 8.30 Fish TV (9675785) 8.30 Survival of the Pittest (4854678) 10.00 be Hockey, Notingham v Bracknell (482230) 12.30pm Ternis: WTA Kramin Cup (2852222) 2.30 Get Eara (1832222) 9.00 Fishel Sports (1982359) 7.00 Sports Curtins (2850465) 7.30 Got Eara (1751308) 11.00 Euro Tour Weeldy (7834414) 11.30 Sports Action (4841476) 12.90 Ottshora Powerboots (8238490) 12.30 ottshora Powerboots (8238491) 1.00 Sports Certins (2817772) 1.30 Sport USA (2904685) 3.00 Close

12.00pm Wresting (62191097) 1.50 Fish TV (62100786) 2.00 Superbours (67562921)

SKY SPORTS 3

Augby Linion: European Cuo (95424650) 5.30 Pool: World Chemplanetho (36297056) 6.30 Offenore Powerboats (55324834) 7.00 Peh TV (86790269) 6.00 Sport USA (34847105) 9.30 Windsuffing: World Tour (82192785) 10.00 Sportrals (85784582) 10.30 Goldson Age of Motor Racing (42512766) 11.36 Closs EUROSPORT

7-30am Europeais (82327) 9.00 UEFA Cup (79485) 10.00 UEFA Cup (10414) 11.30 Wheeles (39143) 12.00 ATP Tour Review (37303) 12.30pm, Termise Kreelin Cup— 1-200 12.30pm, Termise Kreelin Cup— 1-200 12.30pm, Termise Kreelin Cup— 1620mis: Stockholm ATP Tournament — Line (78747) 7.00 8oxforg: World Games (58206) 8.00 Speed Deris World Challenge (59065) 9.00 Boxforg — Line (83143) 11.00 Colf: WPG European Tour Sepan Review (38222) 12.00 World Cup Dream Team (83222) 12.00 World Cup Dream Team (83222) 12.30mm Close

UK GOLD 7.00em Worzel Gurrindge (2947817) 7.35 Neighbours (9856231) 8.00 Crosmads (3438018) 8.25 EastEnders (1825495) 9.00 The Bill (8368582) 9.30 Howards Way (9398940) 10.00 Bless The House (6520896) 10.20 The Sullivans (8384785) 11.00 Boon (4567872) 12.00 Crossroads 1.30 H-De-Hi (3765230) 2.10 Yes Minister (721) 1822 2.60 As You Being Served? (2977105) 3.30 The Bill (298018) 4.00

Distant, Downsers (852490) 11.00 Hart to Hart Potessionels (852490) 11.00 Hart to Hart (8511476) 12.00 Coronation St (486572) 12.30pm Families (2155571) 1.00 Sizu Date (216506) 2.00 (Instais, Downstais (2724058) 3.00 Dorahue (890032) 4.00

(\$724058) 3.00 Dorejtue (9800292) 4.00 The Professionals (6800327) 5.00 Hewel Five-O (1807785) 6.00 Fernilles (2941327)

2977105) S.30 The Pdf (298016) 4.00 Juliet Bravo (7823458) S.98 EastEnders (7823458) S.98 EastEnders (7823458) Full House (7823414) 6.25 That's Showbusiness (8822016) 7.00 It Arit's Half Fiel, Mum (4982211) 7.45 Don't Wait Up (1119150) 8.20 Yes Minister (1153582) 9.00 The Bill (1075747) 8.30 The Chair (2524563) 16.36 The Black Additional (2524563) 16.36 The Black Additional (6456259) 11.30 Natical Vision (5750590) 12.256m Chancer (797147) 1.20 Minister (797157) 1.20 Minister (7 8.08em The Box (3162114) 7.00 Coronation St (8916021) 7.30 Femilies (8635056) 8.00 Supples Supples (8640589) 9.00 Ubstalla, Downstein (834658) 10.00 The Professional (864058)



Action in The Railway Children (Sky Movies Gold, 6.00pm)

6,30 Coronation St (2932879) 7,00 Stand Up (7503476) 7.20 UEFA Chempions Lague (7184650) 10.00 Hawaii Five-O (7502747) 11.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL

6.60em Dumbo's Circus (16691) 6.30 Under the Umbrella Tree (12650) 7.30 Aladdin: The Series (67698) 7.30 Queck August The Sense to reso; 7.30 Cuses, Pack (48105) 8.00 Dinosaus (88395) 8.30 Borlions (33376) 9.00 Gummi Seers (8308) 11.00 Winnie the Pool (8308) 11.00 Winnie the Winnie (5857230) 11.15 Rosio and Jim (692 11.36 Sing Me a Story with Balle (1107921) 12.00 Tots TV (8539679) 12.20pm Disney (74184259) 1.00 Sesame Street (30989) 2.00 Amezing Anlmais (1259) 2.20 Gummi Bears (8675) 3.00 Tale Spin (1786) 5.30 Good Timop (1234) 4.00 Timon and Puribes Gargoyles (5211) 5.30 Dinosaura (1585) 8.00 Blossom (7309) 6.30 Boy Meets World (1380) 7.00 Home Improvement (2747) 7.30 The Wonder Yeats (5312) 8.00 Pillife

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6.00em Delty (3776960) 6.30 BBy the Cat

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8.00mm Happily Ever Alter (11495) 6.30 Bobby's World (25124) 7.00 Spirou (63672) 7.30 Dommis the Memace (59679) 8.00 Eat-men (18259) 8.30 Both Master (33330) 9.00

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TROUBLE

12.00pm Swen's Crossing (8873414) 12.30 Ready or Not (8394124) 1.60 Madison (4583056) 1.30 Callornia Dreams Marison (455355) 1.30 Callionia Disans (239345) 2.00 Saved by the Bell (653055) 2.30 Swent's Crossing (7201965) 3.00 Stant (655956) 3.30 Ready or Not (720814) 4.00 Saved by the Bell (726521) 4.30 USA High (7261705) 5.30 Hangtine (6554143) 5.30 California Disant (7205785) 6.00 Blast (720289) 6.30 Madison (728650) 7.30 USA High (726854) 8.00 Clase BRAVO

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PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.50pm Grace Under Fire (4637) 7.50 Roseanne (2834) 8.00 Ellen (9495) 8.30

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THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 8.00pm Sightings (#250485) 8.30 Sightings (3010786) 9.00 FB_Mit. Downstraft (#867582) 11.00 Friday the 13th (#167485) 12.00 Sightings (8940438) 1.00mm Twilight Zone (6922148) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (6124308) 2.00 Dark Shadows (1316785) 2.30 New Hitchcock (1335815) 3.00 Friday the 13th (7047419) 4.00 Close

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ing Passions (7284678) 5.00 Ancient Warrions (6534369) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (7216259) 6.00 Deedly Australians (7206672) 6.30 Deedly Australians (7299124) 7.00 World of Strange Power (7267)24 (7.00 World of starting Powerse (5547853) 7.30 Wonders of Weather (725505) 8.00 Mysterious Universe (556501) 8.30 Super Natural (6542308) 9.00 Raging Planet (572143) 10.00 Raging Planet (6724230) 11.00 Exeme Machines (4553679) 12.00 Fichtitine

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7,00pm Endangered: Esperanza (7604685) 7,30 The Eagle and the Shake (5968476) 8,00 Phenthal (7680015) 8,30 Shake Blet (7682653) 9,00 Lions of the African Night (3654960) 10,00 Champions of the Wave (3964747) 11,00 They Never Set Foot on

April Bast 8.00 News 8.30 Dastagn 9.00 Pel Co Pal 10.00 Filmi Beerein 10.30 ZEE Ha Parade 11.00 Purush Kshetra 11.30 Sz. ziers 12.00 Close

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RACING 47

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WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5 1997

BAF cash crisis takes heavy toll

Britain drop top coaches in shake-up

SOME of Great Britain's most distinguished coaches, who have produced Olympic and world champions such as Sally Gunnell and Jonathan Edwards, were yesterday among 21 people made redundant by the British Athletic Federation (BAF).

Administrators at the national governing body are to pay off Bruce Longden, men-tor of Gunnell, and Carl Johnson, coach to Edwards, in reducing the total BAF payroll from 34 to 13. The national governing body faces debts of £500,000 and has running costs of £130,000 a month.

However, many of the coaches may be employed by constituent members of the BAF, such as the Amateur Athletic Association of England, with assets of more than El million, or by the individual

Jayne Pearce, the BAF spokeswomen, said: "Dave Moorcroft [the new chief executivel and the rest of the professional staff in our office will, for the time being, carry on, but the future is by no means certain."

Moorcroft, who took up his £70,000-a-year job only a month ago, vowed that British athletics would be in a better long-term position after the administrators had completed their job and he stressed that the crisis would not prevent top-level athletes from competing in international events.

metres record-holder said: "I think in the long term there will be a better structure for the delivery of the sport in this country. It's really depressing to see the administrators making these decisions, but you have got to be positive and think something better and stronger will come out of it." Moorcroft told Radio 5 Live:

"At the moment, it is very

have to feel sorry for the 21 people who have lost their

As well as Longden and Johnson, the BAF is likely to lose Peter Warden, the North West coach, David Lease, in the West, Brad McStravick, in the North East, and Brian Hall, Andy Vince and Phil Banning, the national coaches of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales respectively. Pearce said: "We are hoping

that the coaches will be able to to carry on with their roles in



Arnold: excellence

some shape or form, perhaps with funding from the region. However, we are not able to fund them. It is obviously a very sad day for everyone at

The BAF still has four technical directors - Norman Knight (sprints and hurdles), Max Jones (throws) and Tudor Bidder (jumps and combined events) - and they will oversee the top 190 athletes under the direction of Malcolm Arnold.

Arnold said: "I am just hoping that the other organisations in athletics will help in the short term. We are looking now at a leaner,

meaner machine, a more professional set-up. There remains a residual excellence in the sport. Britain are, after all. European Cup-holders."

He forecast that, unless more money became available, the sport would suffer in the long term, with the danger that youngsters would go out of athletics. Technical publica-tions, for which British athletics is renowned, would also be affected. Longden said that he had feared the redundancies would be coming. He agreed with Arnold that youngsters would be the ones to "miss

out."
"The top echelon is ring-fenced," he said, "but the youngsters will be thinking: How am I going to break through in this sport? There may not be the regional support. We are responsible for the education courses and the performance training weekends. Who is now going to pay for these facilities? The Birmingham-based

BAF, formed in 1991 despite constant bickering among its national and regional constit-uent members, has been dog-ged by financial problems. Television revenue and sponsorship have fallen. Much of the television money and sponsorship money have often gone to other flourishing organisations in athletics, such as the London Marathon, with its own office, professional staff and high profile. The hefty legal costs.

The BAF has not ruled out selling its own premises in an attempt to avert bankruptcy, while the immediate future of domestic showpiece events remains shrouded in uncertainty because of the financial problems. The answer to its troubles may be a national registration scheme, which exists in other Olympic sports, such as swimming, rowing, judo and weightlifting. Even at £10 per head, this could raise an estimated El million a year, with the BAF also able to sell its registration list to sports goods manufacturers.

Contrite Tyson says he fears life ban

Graham Bell, the leading British downhill skier, tests the new Jordan wind funnel in Brackley, Northamptonshire. The tunnel

has been built to enhance training facilities for the 1998 Winter Olympic Games. Photograph: Mike Cooper / Allsport

MIKE TYSON believes that he will never get back his licence to box. The former sometimes it's the insecurity. 1 world heavyweight champi-on, who was indefinitely suswant to be the defiant person. That's part of my insecurity pended for biting a piece out of Evander Holyfield's ear in but, you know, it's just who I a world title bout in June, told Having viewed tapes of the

on Monday night. "Truly, I think I'll be banned for the feeling of "disgust, disdain and humiliation". He added: It was Tyson's first appear "I shouldn't have done that. It was just striking out and totally hatred right there. I ance on network television since being disqualified and forced out of boxing in disshouldn't have done that, grace. Tyson said: "I truly because that was one mothink everyone hates me. I ment, I just forgot he was a truly believe that, because no human being. one gets punished more than l am. But I understand. I'm a

big boy and I believe big boys have big ordeals to be dealt Tyson thought that people wanted him to beg for mercy.
"I'm not that way," he said.
"This is who I am and maybe

From Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent, in las vegas

that his action left him with a

"It was extremeness. There was some serious stuff going on in my head. I just snapped. I was no longer playing under the rules. Any kind of functional thinking, any kind of rational thinking, that was totally out the window. Once the boundaries were crossed.

I had no more respect for the

Tyson, who was joined for part of the interview by his wife, Dr Monica Turner, and three of their children, said he



Tyson: interview

kind of scary to change and feel a little helpless in changing," he said. "We are working on it and hopefully it will turn out better. I don't know why I'm afraid to change. I

going to happen overnight."

Holyfield said he forgave Tyson, but did not think they would meet in the ring again.
"He is sorry and he felt that he did it out of anger, which everyone knows." Holyfield said. "I'm friends with him anyway. I love him, I forgive him. It's not so much that he has to apologise, he did aiready, but I don't think I would fight him [again]."

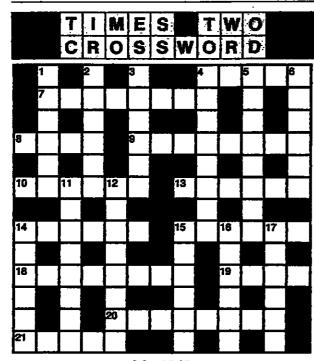
Tyson's fears are understandable, for, immediately after the bout many people said that they wanted him banned for life. They were disappointed that the Nevada told Tyson he could make an application for a licence after a year. The decision to give an interview could be part of an attempt to condition the thinking of the commission. certainly extend the ban for another year.

Dt ...

16

An exclusion of 12 months is regarded in boxing as being 🐴 no punishment at all, but Tyson's moroseness is not reflected in the thinking of the casinos here. Even though MGM Grand has ended its deal with Don King. Tyson's promoter, the casino is not against looking at Tyson contests if and when he gets his licence back.

Bill Doak, the publicity director of MGM, said: "When he gets his licence, we will look at his fights, case by



No 1243

ACROSS

- 7 Travelling in the sky (8)
- 8 Henry VI's foundation (4) 9 Fine soft fragile (8)
- 10 Rubber (6) 2 13 Renal organ (6)
 - 14 Scout for food (6) 15 Solid, durable (6)
 - 18 Green wormwood drink (8) 19 ¹3πr²h gives its volume (4)
- 20 Repentant (8)
- 3 21 Two OT books: Henry VI's other foundation (5)
- DOWN
- I Ankle cover, a spat (6) 2 Seventh planet out (6) 3 Over there (6)
- 5 Sort of fee: family servant

4 Women's-rights believer (8)

- 6 One standing bail (6) 11 A graze (8) 12 Selective-breeding study (8)
- 14 César composer (6) 15 Midday snooze (6)
- 16 Ragged child (6) 17 Main meal of day (6)
- SOLUTION TO NO 1242 ACROSS: 1 Check off 7 Snide 8 Improvise 9 Log 10 Keel 11 Cherry 13 Sister 14 Scroll 17 Stairs 18 Scud 20 Van 22 Encourage 23 Grind 24 Hebrides DOWN: 1 Chink 2 Express 3 Knob 4 Flight 5 Billy 6 Seaguil 7 Secrecy 12 Delayed 13 Salvage 15 Orchard 16 Oracle 17 Snail 19 Dress 21 Ruhr

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West Ham spark blackout inquiry

rest of my life."

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

WEST Ham United are still investigating the cause of the season that a Premiership Boodlight failure that resulted match has been abandoned in their FA Carling Premierbecause of floodlight failure. ship match against Crystal Palace being abandoned after Derby County were leading Wimbledon 2-1 in August 66 minutes on Monday night. when a circuit-breaker, which The board of the FA Premier had been set too low, shut off League, which runs the Prethe lights at Pride Park after 57 miership, has also asked for a Derby carried out an invesreport on why the lights went gation after the game was out at Upton Park.

Lampard had equalised for West Ham, completing their comeback from 2-0 down, the ground was plunged into darkness. Despite efforts to find the fault, the game was called off half an hour later, at 9.50pm. A date has yet to be set for the rearranged fixture. Season ticket-holders will not be affected, but other supporters have been advised to retain their ticket stubs while the club considers offering reduced prices. There will be no refunds, in accordance with League regulations, and it is unlikely that the fans will

Twelve seconds after Frank

be given free admission. There was a fault at the South End, which controls the floodlights for both ends of the ground, and it was impossible to find in the time available," Peter Storrie, the West Ham managing director, said. Everything has now got to be thoroughly checked and rechecked and that's what we're

For David Elleray, the referan Essex hotel last Thursday ee, it was a familiar experimorning. He was reportedly ence. It was the fourth time in arrested by police but subsehis career that the floodlights quently let off with a warning. had failed while he was officiating - the last being at and he said it was something Crystal Palace. "It was a great and nothing," Storrie said. shame," he said. "The game "There was an incident, but it was sorted out. We are happy was flowing nicely and it hardly needed a ref.

It is the second time this

called off and its findings were accepted by the Premier

League. When the game was

Elleray: no choice

tors were allowed in free - it

West Ham also had to

contend with problems off the

pitch on Monday night after

John Hartson, their Wales

striker, was the subject of

allegations of drunkenness in

"We have spoken to John

with his explanation."

ended in a 1-1 draw.

Lambert from Borussia Dortmund later this week for El.75 million. He would then be able to make his debut for the club against Rangers on Saturday.

nificant episode in a career that has taken onlookers by surprise in the summer of 1996, he was a midfield player of modest reputation at Moth-erwell, but the Bosman ruling persuaded Dortmund to risk employing him since they did not have to pay a fee to the Scottish club. Since then, Lambert has collected a European Con-winners' medal, having exerted great influence in the 3-1 victory over Juventus in the

final, and become a key member of the Scotland team. He has continued to appear regularly for Dortmund this season, but the club has a new coach, Nevio Scala, who was prepared to countenance the ale. Celtic first considered purchasing him in January and, despite a change of manager, when Wim Jansen was appointed, that interest did not abate, even though

Dortmund play Parma in the Champions' League this evening and Lambert, 28, will not be allowed to travel to Glasgow to conclude the deal until tomorrow.

negotiations have been tortu-

Celtic's backroom upheaval has claimed another casualty. with the departure of David Hay, the assistant general manager, just a week after Danny Crainie, the youth coach. was also deemed surplus to requirements at

Parkhead. This is the second time that

Celtic bringing Lambert home

By KEVIN McCarra

CELTIC are to sign Paul Hay has parted company with the club, having been dismissed as manager in 1987. He was brought as chief scout under Tommy Burns three years ago and acted as caretaker before the arrival of The transfer is another sig-Jansen in the summer.

Darren Jackson, the Celtic striker, was back on target yesterday two months after brain surgery. Jackson, mak-ing his first appearance at Parkhead since his operation, equalised for the reserves in their 2-2 draw against Dun-

Fearful Feyenoord ... Positive Dalglish Rioch eyes vacancy 48

fermline, steering home a pass from Tommy Johnson. Jackson had earlier shown no reservations about heading the ball, powering one effort against the crossbar. He played for the full 90 minutes and Jansen must have been impressed with his display in

his third comeback match.

Steve Corical the Wolverhampton Wanderers midfield player, has been ruled out for the rest of the season and will miss the World Cup finals if Australia qualify. Corica, 24, who has played only two minutes of first-team football this season, has undergone a total reconstruction of the knee on which he had cruciate

ligament surgery in the spring. There's no explanation why the operation failed and it's just a case now of Steve going through the whole process again," Mark McGhee, the Wolves manager, said. "It is very disappointing for him, especially in World Cup year."

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